THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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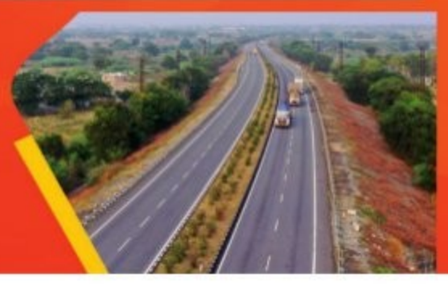
CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

UBS offers to buy Credit Suisse for $1 bn

The Swiss government is planning to change the country's laws to bypass a shareholder vote on the transaction, the Financial Times reported. Swiss authorities are scrambling to rescue the 167-year-old bank, which is among the world's largest wealth managers, before financial markets reopen on Monday. Reports said UBS offered 0.25 Swiss francs ($0.27) per Credit Suisse share.

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

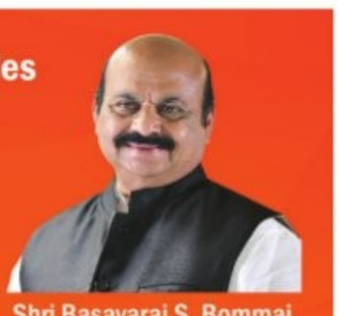
G20 | Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav | NAVA KARNATAKA FOR NAVA BHARAT



Development of Good Road Network for Safe and Easy Movement of Vehicles

- Rs. 5,140 crore sanctioned for new works under the Roads and Bridges Scheme.
- Road safety works worth Rs. 165 crore and renovation of 1,008 km long state highway roads at a cost of Rs. 440 crore are being implemented.
- Improvement of 2,275 km long state highways and major district roads is being implemented at a cost of Rs. 3,500 crore.
- Construction of 1,411 foot crossings undertaken under the Gramabandhu Sethu Project to connect the people of the coastal and hilly areas.

karnataka information


Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

J&K GETS 1ST FDI PROJECT AFTER SCRAPPING A-370

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha performs rituals during the foundation stone-laying ceremony of the 'Mall of Srinagar', in Srinagar on Sunday | ANI

OVER three years after Article 370 was read down, Jammu and Kashmir has got its first foreign direct investment project from Dubai-based Emaar Group, which developed the world's tallest building Burj Khalifa.

On Sunday, J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha performed the groundbreaking ceremony for the Mall of Srinagar, a mega mall to be spread over 10 lakh square feet at Sempora, Srinagar.

Launched by Emaar and Magna Waves Buildtech, the mall is set to become operational by 2026. It will be the biggest mall in J&K having over 500 shops. The mega mall, which is expected to provide jobs to over 13,000 youth, will include six multiplexes, a five-star hotel, and a multi-use commercial and residential complex.

Emaar will also build IT towers in Srinagar and Jammu. "These three projects will be developed at a cost of ₹500 crore," said Sinha.

He added that the J&K government is working to provide a better business ecosystem to investors.

Amit Jain, CEO of Emaar Properties, said the mall is one of the group's milestone projects, which will have a positive impact on J&K's overall economy.

"This will create regular employment. Besides, goods will come and logistics will increase. Jobs at airports will increase. The transportation will increase. The food industries will come and invest here," added Jain.

Sexual assault remark: Rahul seeks time after cops knock at his door

Congress raps request for information on his claim during Bharat Jodo Yatra in Srinagar

PREETHA NAIR AND UJWAL JALALI @ New Delhi

SENIOR Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday sent a four-page letter to the Delhi Police hours after a police team visited his residence to question him on his claims during his Bharat Jodo Yatra in J&K on January 30 that "women are still being sexually assaulted".

In his letter, Rahul sought 8-10 days to furnish a detailed reply. On March 16, the Delhi Police had served a notice on him seeking information on the alleged victims.

In his 10-point reply, Rahul wondered about the Delhi Police's urgency to visit him thrice in a week, though the Yatra concluded on January 30. He asked whether the notice was in anyway connected with the questions he has been raising inside and outside Parliament on the Adani issue.

Senior police personnel (L) emerging from Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's residence in New Delhi on Sunday; and Rahul driving away later | PARVEEN NEGI

Speaking to reporters outside Rahul's house, Special CP (Law and Order) Sagar Preet Hooda said, "If there is any victim, who could also be a resident of Delhi, we want to provide help as early as possible. Even if the victim is from outside Delhi, we could immediately initiate legal action."

Soon after the police team landed at his doorstep, several Congress leaders launched scathing attacks on the BJP-led Centre terming the action as the "worst kind of political vendetta, harassment, and intimidation". Calling it a diversionary tactic, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said that the party will continue questioning the government on the Adani issue.

Senior lawyer and Congress MP Abhishek Singhvi said after serving the notice on March 16 along with a two-page questionnaire, the Delhi Police had gone back without raising any objection when Rahul sought 8-10 days to put together the details. Yet, they came back on Sunday wih a similar questionnaire, he said, adding, "it's unprecedented and to create fear and intimidation after having waited for 45 days."

Party leader Jairam Ramesh said, "This is a deliberate attempt to divert attention. We will stick to the demand of a JPC on the Adani issue."

In his pushback, BJP president J P Nadda accused Rahul of overstepping all bounds of democracy and said he should be sent packing "lock, stock and barrel". "Those who do not believe in democracy have no place in it," Nadda said.

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KHALISTAN SUPPORTERS BRING DOWN INDIAN FLAG

A few Khalistani supporters brought down the Tricolour at the Indian High Commission in London on Sunday, demanding Amritpal Singh's release. "The senior-most diplomat in the British High Commission was summoned and this issue was raised," the MEA said | P9

A man taking down the Tricolour at the Indian High Commission in UK

EXPRESS READ

Salman Khan gets threat mail from jailed don

Mumbai: Actor Salman Khan received a threat mail on Saturday from jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi and his associate Goldy Brar. Following this, the Bandra police registered an FIR against the duo as well as against one Mohit Garg.

Terrorism case lodged against Imran Khan

Islamabad: The police on Sunday registered a terrorism case against Imran Khan and over a dozen of his party leaders for vandalism, attacking securitymen and creating unrest ahead of a court hearing in a graft case involving the ousted premier | PTI

5 excise staff suspended over missing liquor boxes

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Belagavi

FIVE excise department personnel, including three of the officer rank, were suspended in Belagavi on Saturday after a departmental inquiry found that they had allegedly spirited away liquor boxes that were seized during an operation earlier this month. As the Assembly elections are nearing, the excise and police departments have stepped up vigil along the borders connecting Goa and Maharashtra to prevent illegal transportation of money and liquor.

On March 7 evening, the flying squad of the excise department confiscated a van carrying 753 boxes of foreign liquor worth Rs 47 lakh near Modekoppa village in Khanapur taluk.

The seized liquor and vehicle were brought to the excise office at Khanapur. But the very next day, 301 boxes went missing. This forced senior excise officials to order an inquiry, which revealed that department officers and staff were allegedly involved in the theft.

The department has now ordered the suspension of Excise Inspectors Davalsaba Sindogi and Sadashiv Korti, as well as Excise Deputy Inspector Pushpa Gadadi. An FIR has also been registered against them.

Speeding car hits CEO on morning jog, kills her

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mumbai

THE CEO of a tech company, who was jogging near Worli sea-face promenade in south Mumbai on Sunday morning, was killed on the spot after she was hit by a speeding car.

The deceased, **Rajlaxmi Krishnan**, 42, was an avid runner, a fitness freak and part of a Shivaji Park's joggers group. She was a resident of Dadar.

According to police, the incident took place around 6.30 am. The woman was rushed to a nearby hospital, where she was declared dead.

"We have identified the accused, Sumer Merchant, 23, who is a junior employee with a company that provides talent for Bollywood films," said DCP (Zone III) Akbar Pathan.

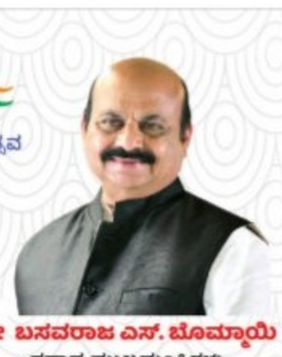
"He was returning after dropping a friend. He hit his car (a Tata Nexon) on a divider, following which it swerved at high speed and hit Krishnan. She was thrown away in the impact," Pathan added. The driver of the car also sustained injuries.

An officer said that based on eyewitness accounts, the car was driven at high speed. Soon after the incident, local residents overpowered Merchant and handed him over to Worli police station, where an FIR was registered.

Blood samples of the accused have been sent for testing. "We want to check if he was under the influence of alcohol when the incident took place," the police official said.

ಶ್ರೀ ನರೇಂದ್ರ ಮೋದಿ
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಪ್ರಧಾನಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು

G20 | ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT | ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯದ ಅಮೃತಮಹೋತ್ಸವ


ಶ್ರೀ ಬಸವರಾಜ ಎಸ್. ಬೊಮ್ಮಾಯಿ
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು

ಎನ್‌ಫೋರ್ಸ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳಿಗೆ 68 ಬೋಲೆರೋ ವಾಹನಗಳ
ಲೋಕಾರ್ಪಣೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಇ-ಚಲನ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನ

ದಿನಾಂಕ : 20-03-2023 ಸೋಮವಾರ
ಸ್ಥಳ : ವಿಧಾನಸೌಧ ಪೂರ್ವದ್ವಾರ (ಗ್ರ್ಯಾಂಡ್ ಸ್ಟೆಪ್ಸ್) ಮುಂಭಾಗ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು
ಸಮಯ: ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 1.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ

ಲೋಕಾರ್ಪಣೆ
ಶ್ರೀ ಬಸವರಾಜ ಎಸ್. ಬೊಮ್ಮಾಯಿ
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು

ಘನ ಉಪಸ್ಥಿತಿ
ಶ್ರೀ ಬಿ. ಶ್ರೀರಾಮುಲು
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸಚಿವರು

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆ
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ಮಾನ್ಯ ಶಾಸಕರು,
ಶಿವಾಜಿನಗರ ವಿಧಾನಸಭಾ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ

ಶ್ರೀ ನಿತಿನ್ ಗಡ್ಕರಿ, ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿಗಳ & ಭೂಸಾರಿಗೆ ಸಚಿವರು ಹಾಗೂ ಶ್ರೀ ಬಿ. ಶ್ರೀರಾಮುಲು, ಸಾರಿಗೆ & ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸಚಿವರು ಇಲಾಖಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿರುವುದು

ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಗೌರವಾನ್ವಿತ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಚಿವರು, ಲೋಕಸಭೆ, ರಾಜ್ಯಸಭೆ, ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆ, ವಿಧಾನ ಪರಿಷತ್ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಜನ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು

ಸರ್ವರಿಗೂ ಆದರದ ಸ್ವಾಗತ

ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ | ಆಯುಕ್ತರು ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ರಸ್ತೆ ಸುರಕ್ಷತೆ

ದೇಶದ ಕಾಡು, ವನ್ಯಜೀವಿ ನದಿಗಳು ಸೇರಿ ಪರಿಸರ ಉಳಿಸುವುದು ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬ ಭಾರತೀಯನ ಸಂವಿಧಾನ ಬದ್ಧ ಮೂಲಭೂತ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ

13-year-old girl hangs self after alleged ragging

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Madikeri

A 13-year-old girl, who was allegedly ragged by her seniors at school, committed suicide at Shivaralli village of Kodlipet in Somwarpet taluk on Saturday night.

Vaishnavi (13), a Class 7 student of a private school, was said to be depressed after being harassed by her seniors and she had complained to her parents about it last week, sources said. However, the school was not informed about this, they added.

Vaishnavi, daughter of Jithendra and Akshata, was found hanging at her house on Saturday night. The Shanivarsanthe police have registered a case.

SPIRIT OF DEMOCRACY

Older than the state, 17,000 centenarians in electoral rolls

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @ Bengaluru

THEY are among very few voters who have seen all the elections in Karnataka, even during the time of Mysuru State. Over 17,000 registered voters in the electoral rolls for this year's state Assembly elections are over 100 years old. According to the office of chief electoral officer in Karnataka, this is the highest-ever number of centenarian voters in the state so far.

In total, the state has 5.21 crore registered voters and of them, 2.59 crore are women. The first-time voters are 9.17 lakh and third gender voters, 4,699. Apart from these, there are 16,973 centenarians, of whom 9,985 are women.

Many of these centenarians may step out to vote, but many of them may not be able to get out of their homes due to age-related issues. They are part of 12.15 lakh registered voters who are over 80 years old. To help such elderly citizens, the Election Commission this time has introduced the option of postal ballot, where they can vote from home.

Bengaluru district (including Bengaluru Rural and BBMP limits) has 4,081 centenarian voters. It is followed by Mysuru (1,744) and Belagavi (1,536). The three districts make up for nearly 40 per cent of all the centenarian voters. Kodagu has the least number of such voters at 112. Gadag has 122, Yadgir 142, Vijayanagara 186 and Uttara Kannada 193. P4

ALMANAC TODAY
• **Monday:** 20/03/2023 • **Year:** Shubhakruta • **Ayana:** Uttharayana
• **Ritu:** Sishira • **Masa:** Phalguna • **Paksha:** Krishna • **Tithi:** Chaturdashi 1.24 am
• **Nakshatra:** Sathabhisha 7.10 pm • Moon in Meena Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 07:30 am to 09:00 am
• **Gulikakala:** 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • **Yamaganda:** 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER — MIN 18°C | MAX 31°C
FORECAST Light rain. Cloudy

Sunrise 6.24 am | Sunset 6.30 pm | Moonrise 5.19 am | Moonset 5.20 pm

AUTOS NOT TO PLY TODAY, UNIONS WANT BIKE TAXIS OFF ROADS

Drivers say using personal white-board bikes as taxis illegal

Members of Bike Taxi Association stage a protest alleging harassment by autorickshaw and cab drivers, at Freedom Park on Sunday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

AUTORICKSHAWS will not ply on Bengaluru roads on Monday (March 20) as auto unions have called for a one-day strike against the state government's decision to grant permission for e-bike taxis. The unions have also demanded a ban on personal two wheelers (white-board bikes) being used as bike taxis.

The state transport department permitted private company Bounce to operate 100 e-bike taxis in the city to improve the first and last-mile connectivity under its Electric Bike Taxi Scheme. The department has fixed a fare of Rs 25 for 5km and Rs 50 for 10km.

Recently, an auto driver was arrested after he waylaid a bike taxi rider, smashed his helmet and warned him of serious repercussions if found operating his bike taxi again.

"People are using their personal white-board bikes and scooters as taxis by linking their vehicles with companies like Rapido. This is illegal and has eaten into the income of nearly two lakh auto drivers, whose earnings had already suffered after Covid," said Manjunath, convenor of Bangalore Auto Drivers Unions' Federation.

He pointed out that Maharashtra and Delhi, realising the problems of auto drivers, have banned bike taxis. "Autos have to get permits, follow many rules and ensure the safe journey of their passengers. But white-board taxis do not have any rules and there are many incidents where the safety of passengers has been compromised," he added.

"We want the state government to impose a similar ban and help auto drivers lead a decent life," he said and added that the strike will start Sunday midnight and end Monday midnight.

Members of the protesting unions will carry out an auto rally from the city central railway station till the chief minister's residence on Monday morning to grab his attention and urge him to address their woes.

> *Autos have to follow many rules... But white-board taxis do not have any rules, there are incidents where the safety of passengers has been compromised*
> – Manjunath, Bangalore Auto Drivers Unions' Federation

RTC

JAC calls off stir, but league to go ahead

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

WHILE the Joint Action Committee of the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation has withdrawn its indefinite strike scheduled from Tuesday after holding a meeting, chaired by Karnataka State Transport Corporation MD Anbu Kumar, on Saturday, another section of the transport union have said they will go on with their strike from Friday.

Members of the Karnataka State Road Transport Employees' League said they are unhappy with the 15 per cent wage hike order passed by the government and termed it a unilateral decision.

Chandrashekar R, president of the league, said the state government agreed to the wage hike demands of government employees union and KPTCL employees, but has ignored transport employees' demands, hiking the basic pay by just 15 per cent.

"We have already issued a 14-day strike notice to Labour Commissioner. From March 24, RTC workers will not report to work. We will not budge till our wage hike and other demands that include taking back of dismissed employees who took part in the 2021 protest, withdrawal of FIRs filed against the employees and others are not met," said Chandrashekar.

Meanwhile, Representatives of the Joint Action Committee, led by veteran transport activist H V Anantha Subbarao, who withdrew their indefinite strike, met Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Sunday and thanked him personally for hiking the salary of the employees.

A release from JAC said they were assured by the KSRTC that the pay revision will be effective from January 2020. "A single-member committee has been given a period of one month to decide the amount of grant to the transport corporations. Salary scale, bata (incentive), and other allowances will be discussed with the labour organisation," the release said.

'Stop Tobacco' app grabs public fancy

NAMRATA SINDWANI @Bengaluru

THE GPS-based mobile app 'Stop Tobacco' launched in Karnataka on February 28, has seen 50 complaints made on the portal of people smoking in public.

Citizens often end up becoming victims of passive smoking in public areas. State Tobacco Control Cell (STCC), a wing of the department of health and family welfare, launched the app to reduce such instances.

Prabhakar, in charge of the State Tobacco Control Programme, told TNIE that since the launch, they have recorded over 200 app downloads. Action has been taken over five or six complaints, which were generally against shop owners for not displaying 'No Smoking' signs, and allowing people to smoke. Fines were also levied on people found smoking near such shops. The maximum complaints were seen in Bengaluru's Gandhinagar, HSR Layout and Banaswadi so far. Cases have also been reported from Belagavi and Dakshina Kannada.

Since the app is GPS-enabled, location of the violation automatically gets fed and goes to the respective District Tobacco Control Cell. They reach the location and take action on the complaint, and close it in six working days.

Public smoking is a public nuisance, hence this initiative is helping report such cases, as often people can't directly approach smokers and ask them to stop. They can just upload pictures on the app and necessary action is taken by the government, said Dr Kiran Kumar, an official with the STCC.

With the World Health Organisation (WHO) recognising Bengaluru for its best tobacco control policy, the department said several other initiatives are also being taken to reduce production and consumption of tobacco products in Karnataka.

Prabhakar said that 50 tobacco growing families in Tumakuru district have been successfully made to switch to growing other crops. Besides, the government is suggesting that real estate companies allocate tobacco-free apartments for people to ensure they don't end up as passive smokers in their residential areas also.

KEA to release first round PG AYUSH results today

Bengaluru: The first round seat allotment results for PG AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Naturopathy and Homeopathy) courses will be released by Monday evening. The Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) had released the results of the mock seat allotments on Saturday. Candidates can view the results on the KEA website (keaonline.karnataka.gov.in). Candidates will be able to reorder or change their choice of courses and college till 11 am on Monday, while they can complete fee payments between Tuesday and Thursday on release of allotment results. These candidates will need to report to their allotted colleges by Saturday, with all relevant documents and the payment verification slip. Currently, the PG AYUSH courses in the state has 1,125 seats of which 356 belong to the government quota. **ENS**

Educationists hit out at govt's plan for financial autonomy for UVCE colleges

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

Participants at the consortium organised by IGNITE in Bengaluru on Saturday

EDUCATIONIST Prof B Narayanappa on Saturday said while the University of Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE) has been able to produce many prominent figures, it has been reduced to a commercialised version of itself due to government negligence. He was speaking at a consortium organised by IGNITE - the All Karnataka Engineering Students' Forum, and the Engineering Colleges Faculty Association (ECFA) on the 'Impact of Financial Autonomy in Higher Education'.

"After producing many eminent engineers and scientists, now UVCE is becoming commercial only because of the negligence of the government and officials," he said.

Several other educationists echoed the same sentiment with the government currently in the process of formulating an IIT model for UVCE, including allowing financial autonomy to UVCE's affiliated colleges.

"The goal of modelling UVCE as IIT is good. But the government should not shy away from the responsibility of providing funds under the guise of autonomy. If a prestigious college, like UVCE, is converted into a self-financed institution, only those with money will be able to study. The fight against educational financial autonomy should involve students, teachers and parents," said Prof M N Sreehari, an advisor to the government on traffic, transportation and infrastructure.

IGNITE convenor Abhaya Diwakar said the government is shirking its responsibility in providing basic facilities to its colleges. "The government is shying away from its basic responsibility of providing funds to educational institutions. To label such a college as financially autonomous is exactly to levy expensive fees on students and parents. We fear that this policy will curtail engineering education in the future," she said.

Women beat, set fire to effigy of MLA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

SEVERAL hundred women came out in protest against Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad, going so far as to beat an effigy of him with chappals and set it on fire.

Hundreds of women on Sunday protested in Shivajinagar against the MLA, following a raid on a godown owned by former BBMP corporator Farida Ahmed, wherein thousands of ration kits were seized. The women alleged that the move was a way to block the ration kits being distributed by the ex-corporator during Ramzan for election reasons.

Speaking on the issue, social worker Shakeel Usmani said ration kits had been distributed during festivals to the women for as long as 20 years. "During festivals, including Ramzan, these ration kits are distributed to the women. However, following the raid, which was conducted on Saturday night, the women have begun protesting against the MLA as this will mean that ration kits will not be distributed during Ramzan, which is set to begin in a few days," he said.

Several women thrashed an effigy of the MLA, with a banner of his face attached to it, with their chappals. This was also followed by the women setting the effigy on fire.

Arshad hit back at the protesters, calling the protest purely political. "The protest has turned political as locals feel that the motive behind the raid itself is political. However, I was not aware of the raid until today as I was involved in several programmes on Saturday," he said.

EXPRESS READ

IISc's PhD admissions deadline extended to March 26

Bengaluru: The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has extended the dates for admission into their postgraduate and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programmes to March 26. Interested candidates can apply for the regular IISc research programmes, programmes in engineering and science, integrated PhD programmes and external registration programmes. More information on what programmes are being offered can be found on the IISc website: iisc.ac.in **ENS**

DULT launches 'Pedal Shaale' to promote cycling

Bengaluru : The Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) launched the 'Pedal Shaale', a 10-day certified fee bicycle training programme, at Cubbon Park on Sunday. Through this programme, DULT intends to facilitate citizens to learn cycling and equip them with necessary skills to confidently navigate on the roads. The training, comprising 10 sessions of one hour each, will be provided at multiple locations. Participants will receive a certificate on completion of the training. **ENS**

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

20TH March : It's the spring equinox today, which means that day and night are exactly the same length, a moment of perfect balance. Many ancient cultures celebrated the day with great ceremonies intended to encourage the Sun to begin a new period of health and prosperity. In ancient Babylon magnificent rituals went on for twelve days. I think that's a practice worth reviving!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Spend as much time as necessary dealing with domestic and family affairs. Even if you're at work, your concentration will be distracted by thoughts of what must be done at home. Your romantic confidence should improve, so you might be ready to approach someone you're rather fond of.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
The important task now is to talk about your feelings. Nothing else will do. It may also be necessary to take a few short journeys, probably in pursuit of outstanding family business. It could be a relief to resolve a lingering problem. Your social stars look bright by the way, so don't be shy.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
You really must make an early start if you want to get the most out of the day. You should realise, however, that the determining factor will be the amount of money you have in your pocket, not to mention the cost of those items which are necessary to your plans.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
You may be slightly unsure of yourself, but that's understandable. This is probably no bad thing, for a little self-doubt will encourage you to question your preconceptions and hence to do a great deal better next time around. There's room for improvement, as you know!

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
You may be inclined to spend more time by yourself, away from troublesome human company. Whether this is possible or not is another matter. After all, you can't just abandon all your commitments with the wave of a hand. And, if someone entrusts you with a secret, you must respect their confidence.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
Your social stars are strong - and you'll do well if you link up with like-minded people. That way, even the most controversial ideas could succeed. At work, you will do best if you take the long-range point of view and avoid being bogged down in short-term details.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
The professional picture looks fairly positive, and you may be required to take on new responsibilities - and accept authority over other people. In all matters you should be prepared to play a maternal and compassionate role, even with complete strangers!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
You have to do the right thing. Lingering legal questions should be answered as soon as possible, and moral issues should be faced head-on. Also, take the chance to get in touch with family members overseas, especially people you haven't seen for some time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Business and financial plans require more attention, especially if you've taken a risk or got involved in a possibly awkward joint enterprise. Take an inventive approach and realise that old solutions may no longer be the best. And that goes for romantic affairs as well.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
You will have to listen to other people - and take their very good advice. More important, though, is the necessity of understanding their feelings and making a much greater effort to sympathise with their point of view. A generous spirit should win the day.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Work must take the first priority today, even if social concerns constitute the major long-term question. You should recognise that there may be no decision concerning one important emotional tie for a little while longer. Please be patient.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Love is the most important thing at the moment, but it is by no means certain that there is any one relationship that pre-occupies you. It is your friends who can benefit from your new mood, so make a point of spreading any goodwill as widely as you can.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle ⬇

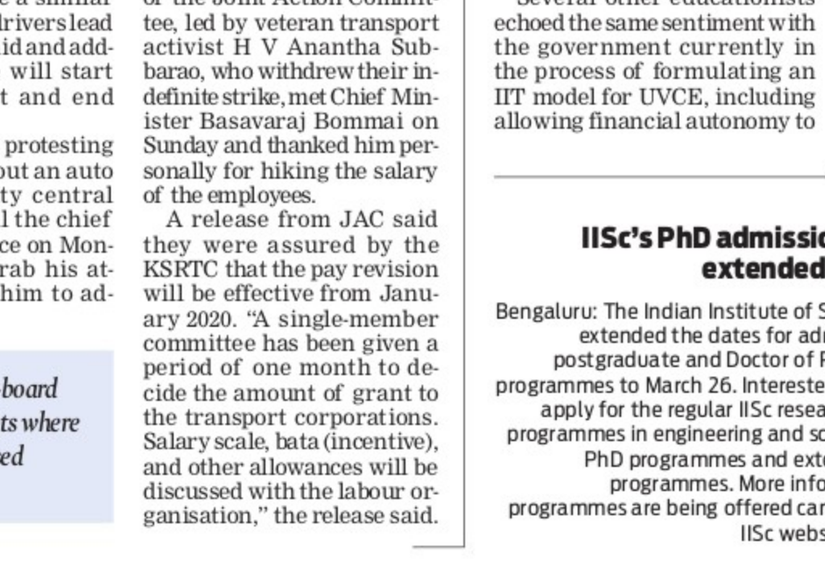
		5		8	2		6	
		1		7				9
9	7				6	5		3
		6		9	8			
4	3			6			5	2
			5	4		8		
6		4	8				3	7
1				2		6		
	9		6	3		4		

7	5	2	9	6	1	4	3	8
1	9	4	5	8	3	2	6	7
3	6	8	4	7	2	1	9	5
4	1	9	8	2	5	6	7	3
2	3	6	7	1	9	5	8	4
8	7	5	3	4	6	9	1	2
6	8	7	1	5	4	3	2	9
9	4	1	2	3	7	8	5	6
5	2	3	6	9	8	7	4	1

SUDOKU EASY

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 Invented art form without meaning to (11)
9 He decides to make a rarebit (7)
10 It's great to be free - at first (5)
11 It's bent on submission (4)
12 Musical state (8)
14 Optimistic sign given to the orchestra (6)
16 The rest of Spain (6)
18 Loaded statement? (8)
19 Metrical measures - or not metrical measures (4)
22 Either way it's essential to a helicopter (5)
23 Stop for Jack to revive (5,2)
24 Informal description of a promotional competition? (4-3-4)

DOWN
2 Illustrious old money (5)
3 A fruit that changes overnight (4)
4 I have found it in a Greek dictionary (6)
5 Misinformed, I led a lot astray (4,1,3)
6 Apprehensive over sun treatment (7)
7 Bet on songs being out-of-date (4,7)
8 No offence perhaps but one goes to court for it (5,6)
13 Treatment costs nothing, so unconcerned (8)
15 Hold up fresh lobster (7)
17 It may bring colour to a typist's work (6)
20 They're used for cutting borders (5)
21 It's cold at the Pole but not unpleasant (4)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Abroad, 4 Icebergs, 9 Rapist, 10 Roulette, 12 Dhow, 13 Fleet, 14 One, 17 Lack interest, 20 Acceleration, 23 Edam, 24 Blade, 25 Roll., 28 Swimming, 29 Spades, 30 Nearness, 31 Usurps.

Down: 1 Airedale, 2 Reproach, 3 Apse, 5 Close friends, 6 Bill, 7 Rating, 8 Scenes, 11 Clothes lines, 15 Witch, 16 Essay, 18 Disorder, 19 Analyses, 21 Lesson, 22 Patina, 26 Amen, 27 Opts.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

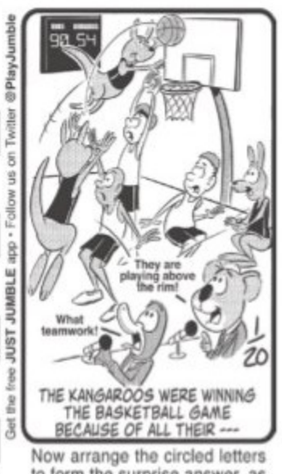
BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

NHETT

WRANP

POESOP

MCTOIM


98 54
They are playing above the rim!
What teamwork!
1/20
THE KANGAROOS WERE WINNING THE BASKETBALL GAME BECAUSE OF ALL THEIR ---
Get the free JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

"___-___-_____"

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: GRAVY WEIGH LEVITY SPLINT
Answer: To build China's famous system of walls, they went to — GREAT LENGTHS

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Sri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

G20 भारत 2023 INDIA

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

In Association with
District Administration and Zilla Panchayat, Bagalakote

Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Laying of Foundation Stone, Inauguration of Various programme and Beneficiaries Summit in Mudhola Assembly Constituency

Date: 21.03.2023, Tuesday Time : 4.00 p.m.
Venue: Ranna Stadium, Lokapura Raod, Mudhola

Inauguration by:
Sri Basavaraja S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister, GoK

Sri Govind M. Karajola Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources Department, (Major and Medium Irrigation), GoK Minister in-charge of Belagavi district. inspecting the progress of the work with the officials

August Presence:

Sri. C. C. Patil
Hon'ble Minister of Public Works Department and Bagalakote District In-charge Minister, GoK

Sri R. Ashok
Hon'ble Minister of Revenue Department, GoK

Sri B. C. Nagesh
Hon'ble Minister of Primary & Secondary Education and Sakala, GoK

Sri B. Kota Sreenivasa Poojary
Hon'ble Minister of Social Welfare and Backward Classes Department and Leader of Legislative Assembly, GoK

Sri V. Sunil Kumar
Hon'ble Minister of Energy and Kannada & Culture Department, GoK

Sri Bhairati Basavaraj
Hon'ble Minister of Urban Development, GoK

Dr. Murugesh R. Nirani
Hon'ble Minister of Major and Medium Industry and Kalaburagi District In-charge Minister, GoK

Sri Araga Jnanendra
Hon'ble Home Minister, GoK

Sri B. Sriramulu
Hon'ble Minister of Transport and Backward Classes Welfare Department Minister, GoK

Sri J. C. Madhuswamy
Hon'ble Minister of Small Irrigation, Law and Parliamentary Affairs, GoK

Sri K. C. Narayana Gowda
Hon'ble Minister of Sericulture, Youth Empowerment and Sports Department, GoK

Sri N. Nagaraja (MTB)
Hon'ble Minister of Municipal Administration Department, GoK

Presided by:

Sri Govind M. Karajola
Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources Department, (Major and Medium Irrigation), GoK Minister in-charge of Belagavi district.

Chief Guests:

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Forment Chief Minister and Opposition leader, Legislative Council and MLA, Badami

Sri Siddu Savadi
Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly, Terdala and Chairman, Karnataka Handcraft Development Corporation Limited, Hubballi

Sri Hanumantha R. Nirani
Hon'ble Member of Legislative Council

Sri. Ananda S. Nyamagouda
Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assemble, Jamakhandi

Sri. P. H. Pujara
Hon'ble Member of Legislative Council

Sri. Prakash Hukkeri
Hon'ble Member of Legislative Council

Sri P. C. Gaddigoudara
Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Bagalakote

Sri Doddanagouda G. Patil
Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembe, Hunagunda

Dr. Veeranna C. Charnatimutt
Hon'ble Chairman, Bagalakote Town Development Authority and MLA, Bagalakore

Sri. Sunilagouda B. Patil
Hon'ble Member of Legislative Council

Sri. Sahajirao D. Mane
Hon'ble Chairman, Town Municipal, Mudhola

Special Invitees All the MPs, MLAs, MLCs, Zilla Panchayat, Taluk Panchayat and Grama Panchayat of Bagalakote District.

Various Development Work details coming under Mudhol Voting Segment

- **Mantur Mahalaxmi Lift Irrigation Scheme** undertaken at a cost of **Rs. 228.00 crores** near Galagali village of Bagalkote District. Lifting water from Krishna River to suffering areas of Ghataprabha left bank main canal from Km 103.00 to 109.00 during the monsoon season.
- **Melligeri-Halagali LIS:-** Laying of foundation stone for the **Rs. 197.00 crore** Melligeri-Halagali LIS Irrigation Project, lifting water from the Krishna river near Galagali Village and creation of fresh areas of 3535 Ha in Mudhol and Bilagi Taluk of Bagalkot District.
- **Mareguddi LIS :-** Laying of foundation stone for the **Rs. 216.50 crore** Mareguddi LIS Irrigation Project, lifting water from the Krishna river near Galagali Village and creation of fresh areas of 2035.00 Ha and 31 Check dams and 4 Tank filling in Mudhol and Jamakhandi Taluk of Bagalkot District.
- Under Ghataprabha right bank and left bank canal development work, bridge construction and road construction of **Rs. 44.50 crore** are being undertaken.
- Construction of alternative 120 Houses in Mudhol town due to flood affected from Ghataprabha River in Mudhola town under Mudhol Constituency for **Rs. 14.40 Crores** under SCP scheme.
- Construction of pre-matric girls/boys hostel is being carried out under SCP scheme at a cost of **Rs. 28.75 crores** in Mudhol constituency.
- Under SCP/TSP scheme under Mudhol Constituency, works are being carried out to provide individual Borewell / Group irrigation facility to the eligible beneficiaries of **Rs. 30.00 Crores.**
- Construction of Community House is being undertaken under the SCP scheme at a cost of **Rs. 2.00 crores** in Mudhol Constituency.
- Commercial Shopping Complex will be constructed at a cost of **Rs. 4.96 crores** in GLBC area belonging to Irrigation Department at Mudhol City.
- Inauguration of the Mudhol Taluka Administration Building constructed at a cost of **Rs. 14.90 crores**. The said administrative building is three storied and has an area of 1985.00 square meters per floor

All are cordially invited

Sunilkumar, IAS
District Commissioner, Bagalakore

T. Bhupalan, IAS
Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Bagalakote

Jayaparakasha, IAS
District Superintendent of Police, Bagalakote

Rakesh Singh, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary, Water Resources

Krishnamurthy B Kulkarni, KES
Secretary, Water Resources

Mallikarjuna B Gunge, KES
Managing Director

To promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional diversities" - is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the Country, enshrined in our Constitution.

Wear Mask | 6 Feet Maintain Physical Distance | Wash / Sanitize your hands

With active Covid-19 cases crossing the 600-mark in Karnataka, XBB1.16, a new variant that has emerged in India, could be driving the rise in cases, feel experts. Thirty new cases of XBB1.16 have been identified in Karnataka since the beginning of the month — the highest in the country

Rahul in Belagavi today, will unveil job guarantee scheme for youth

Central govt has failed to provide jobs, destroyed 'Brand Karnataka', says Surjewala

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Belagavi

FORMER AICC president and Wayanad MP Rahul Gandhi will unveil a job guarantee programme for the youth at the Yuva Kranti Rally in Belagavi on March 20, AICC general secretary and party Karnataka in-charge Randeep Surjewala said on Sunday. Surjewala reviewed the preparations for the rally to be held at CPED Grounds here.

"AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge will also address the rally. There is immense talent among the youth of Karnataka... but the Bommai government has done nothing. The 40% commission government has destroyed the dreams of the youth. Rahul will also address the youth. He will unveil the job guarantee programme for the youth and declare the future plans of the Congress after returning to power in Karnataka. Congress has plans to expand these plans across the country in the coming years," he added.

Hitting out at the Union Government, the Congress leader said, "The Modi government had promised to create 2 crore jobs each year, but failed to deliver on the promise cheating the youth. The BJP government in Karnataka has damaged 'Brand Karnataka'. Karnataka, once known as a peaceful state, attracted investments to Bengaluru and Mysuru. But investors have now lost faith because of the BJP government. Business giants like Foxconn and Ola shifted to Telangana. The government is selling government jobs for money."

He further lashed out at the Bommai government for "forgetting" to spend Rs 41, 942 crore funds in five years meant for welfare programmes. He termed the State Government as anti-Kannada and anti-development.

On the recent statement by Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma over closure of madrasas, he said, "I have known him for the last 40 years. He is making such statements to be in the limelight and get identified on the lines of Amit Shah and Yogi Adityanath. There is no need to take his statements seriously." Monday's visit to Karnataka is Rahul's first visit to the state since his Bharat Jodo Yatra.

> AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge will also address the rally. There is talent among youth of Karnataka, but the Bommai government has done nothing. The 40% commission government has destroyed youth's dreams
>
> Randeep Surjewala

> I have been working in the constituency after the DJ Halli riots and know people's pulse. They want a change. The main issues of congested roads, poor drainage, garbage and water have remained unattended
>
> B Prasanna Kumar, JDS

KPCC president DK Shivakumar and CLP leader Siddaramaiah inspect the venue of Yuva Kranti rally on Sunday in Belagavi in which Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will take part on Monday | EXPRESS

(From left) Congress leaders Satish Jarkiholi, Karnataka in-charge Randeep Singh Surjewala and Saleem Ahmed in Belagavi on Sunday | EXPRESS

Cong's Iqbal may face Nikhil in Ramanagara

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

CLEARING the air over Congress candidate from Ramanagara Assembly constituency, Congress Election Committee (CEC) has selected Iqbal Hussain HA as their candidate, sources said. This ends the confusion over Bengaluru Rural Congress Lok Sabha member DK Suresh, brother of KPCC president DK Shivakumar, contesting from the same seat.

"I have covered almost all constituencies, travelling 950 km. I hope that Vokkaligas will also vote for me," Iqbal told TNIE.

Speculation was rife that Suresh might contest from the constituency against Nikhil, son of former chief minister HD Kumaraswamy, after his mother Anitha declared she will sacrifice the Ramanagara seat for her son.

Nikhil, who expects to taste his first victory in Ramanagara, was defeated by Sumalatha Ambareesh in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls. It was from the same constituency, his father and grandfather HD Deve Gowda won, and went on to become chief ministers.

However, he would be relieved about not facing Suresh, a Vokkaliga, in Ramanagara. According to sources, during one of the community meetings with religious heads, they suggested Shivakumar and Suresh to avoid a clash of Vokkaligas. The community which wants to stake its claim on chief ministership should have at least 40 MLAs on their side, the religious heads suggested. Abiding by that decision, minority leader and a former ZP president, Iqbal, who was defeated by Kumaraswamy in 2018, is likely to take on Nikhil in the upcoming polls.

Of the 2.10 lakh voters in Ramanagara constituency, over 65,000 are Vokkaligas, 40,391 Muslims, 45,000 SC/STs, 9,000 Lingayats, 8,000 Tigalas, 7,000 Kurubas and the rest from other backward classes.

CONG FACES A CHALLENGE TO COUNTER BJP'S BLITZKRIEG

AS the poll dates are expected to be announced anytime now, the BJP's well-oiled election machinery is executing its plan perfectly to control the poll narrative. The Congress, which looked to be in the driver's seat a few months ago, now faces the tough task of matching the BJP's blitzkrieg and deftly handling the tricky job of ticket distribution.

For Congress and its president Mallikarjun Kharge, Karnataka offers a glimmer of hope. But that comes with considerable challenges. Congress enjoys a good support base at the grassroots level in Karnataka. Winning the state will be crucial for reviving the party at the national level as the grouping of regional parties looks to occupy the anti-BJP pole by elbowing out Congress. State polls are a litmus test for Kharge's leadership. A victory in his home state will help him to assert his authority in the party ahead of the 2024 polls. The failure to do so may raise questions over Congress and its leadership's ability to fight BJP in the LS polls.

The Grand Old Party is hoping to stop BJP's efforts to buck the trend to return to power. But its candidates have to largely depend on the support the party enjoys at the grassroots level and their rapport with voters to defeat BJP's formidable election fighting machinery.

Many BJP leaders, including ministers, admit that there is an anti-incumbency sentiment against the government and they are making efforts to overcome it. But Congress' high-decibel campaigns to encash the anti-incumbency factor were not sustained till they reached voters across the state and fell short of driving home their message. They could hardly sustain even an issue like the ruling party MLA's son being found with around Rs 8 crore cash by the Lokayukta.

It looks as if Congress peaked a little early and it now faces the Herculean task of sustaining its momentum. For now, its focus seems to be handling the all-important task of ticket distribution. After sifting through the details of internal surveys, reports from in-house experts, and feedback from local leaders, the party is said to have finalised its first list of candidates which will be announced soon. However, finalising candidates in seats with more than one strong contender will pose a real test to the leadership. That would cause heartburn among those who fail to make it and even result in rebellion, if not handled well. Congress as well as BJP face such a situation in many constituencies.

The party insiders hope that Kharge, who knows all 224 constituencies and local equations like the back of his hand, will be able to deal with the challenge in the best possible manner. After Kharge took over as AICC president, the party has been able to put a lid on the public debate over Congress' chief ministerial candidate. But one cannot rule out the possibility of that playing out subtly in many constituencies, impacting the party's overall prospects.

The party seems to be banking on the guarantee schemes; Rs 2000 to women heads of households, up to 200 units of free power and 10 kg rice to BPL families. Former AICC president Rahul Gandhi, who is visiting Karnataka on Monday for the first time after the Bharat Jodo Yatra that got a good response in the state, is also likely to announce a similar scheme for the youth.

The Congress largely depends on state Congress president DK Shivakumar and former chief minister Siddaramaiah to spearhead its campaign, unlike BJP which deployed 45 national leaders during its ongoing Vijay Sankalpa Yatra.

Chief Ministers from BJP-ruled states and many Union ministers are crisscrossing the state with their aggressive campaigns to woo voters. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP president JP Nadda are frequently visiting the state.

The PM's roadshow in Mandya helped to generate good optics for the BJP which is trying hard to make inroads into the Vokkaliga-dominated Old Mysuru region. The party leaders also believe that independent MP Sumalatha Ambareesh extending support to BJP will help its candidates.

However, it is still not clear if the BJP leaders' big rallies and independent MP's support will make much of a difference for the party in the region, a stronghold of Janata Dal (Secular) and Congress. Many constituencies are likely to witness a triangular fight, which is a good sign for BJP.

As the campaigning enters a crucial stage, the political parties are all set to go into overdrive.

Will ghost of DJ Halli riots haunt Cong MLA?

BALA CHAUHAN @ Bengaluru

THE ghost of August 2020 Deverajeevanahalli (DJ Halli) riots has returned to haunt Congress MLA from Pulakeshinagar, Akhanda Srinivasa Murthy, who in 2018 had won by 81,626 votes, the highest margin in the Assembly polls, against JDS' B Prasanna Kumar.

Kumar returned to Congress in 2021, and is being pitted against Murthy, who is awaiting his name to be cleared by the Congress Election Committee (CEC). Pulakeshinagar seat represented by Murthy is yet to be decided by the CEC as minorities, who are still reeling under the 2020 riots, have reportedly expressed their concern about his candidature. Murthy was with JDS and had joined Congress in 2017 after former CM Siddaramaiah asked him to switch sides.

The posters of Kumar, who returned to Congress in February 2021, are seen along with Kharge and KPCC president DK Shivakumar in the congested Shampura, Tannery Road, DJ Halli, Kavalbyrasanda and on autorickshaws from East Bengaluru.

Both Murthy and Kumar told TNIE they are hopeful of getting the ticket after Congress MP Rahul Gandhi's visit to Belagavi on March 20.

Murthy told TNIE he is confident of getting a ticket from Pulakeshinagar. "I had secured 97,574 votes, the highest in the 2018 elections. I had won by 81,626 votes against Kumar, who got over 15,000 votes. He was the JDS candidate. The people of this constituency know me and the work that I have done. Barring some minority leaders, who are being instigated by others, most of the people are with me," said Murthy.

He was upset that he didn't receive enough support from Shivakumar after his house was torched by a mob in the 2020 riots. Meanwhile, Kumar, too expressed his confidence and said he is "very hopeful" of getting the ticket from Pulakeshinagar Assembly constituency. "I have been working in the constituency after the DJ Halli riots and know people's pulse. They want a change. The main issues of congested roads, poor drainage, garbage and water have remained unattended," said Kumar. He added that he is a four-time Congress MLA, three times from Yelahanka and once from Pulakeshinagar between 2008-'13. Pulakeshinagar has a population of around 2,36,000 people, of which around 50 per cent are Muslims, around 20,000 Christians, and rest Hindus and others.

STRAWS IN THE WIND

A NOSE FOR A NOSE

After a video of Rahul Gandhi's nose digging act went viral, many Central and state BJP leaders started trolling Gandhi, saying he had wiped his fingers on AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge's coat. Union Minister Shobha Karandlaje tweeted that this is how the Gandhi family treats senior leaders in the Congress. "The tallest Dalit leader from Karnataka, who has dedicated five decades to the Congress, is being derided by Rahul Gandhi. Kannadigas will never forget or forgive this contemptuous demeanour," she tweeted. Congress leaders, in turn, trolled the saffron party by posting videos and photos of BJP leaders digging noses.

EXPRESS READ

Miscreants attack AAP K'taka youth wing V-P

Bengaluru: Unidentified miscreants attacked state vice-president of AAP's youth wing, Girish Kumar Naidu, with beer bottles on Saturday night. A case has been registered at Amruthahalli police station after Naidu filed a complaint. Police said Naidu was going from Jakkur Yelahanka towards KR Puram in his car when three unidentified miscreants followed him on two scooters and attacked him. The reason behind the attack is yet to be ascertained, the police said. **ENS**

'Centenarians know value of democracy'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE first Assembly elections in the state, then Mysuru state, were held in March 1951. Since then, the state has seen 15 Assembly and 17 Lok Sabha elections. "Those who are around 90 years old have seen all these elections. We do not know if they voted, but have definitely seen them all. We want those who are over 100 years old to vote in this election," said an official. "These elderly voters have witnessed or been part of India's Independence struggle and know the value of democracy. They usually vote, unless they have health issues," he added.

TOP FIVE DISTRICTS WITH HIGHEST NUMBER OF CENTENARIAN VOTERS

MYSURU	1744
BELAGAVI	1536
BENGALURU URBAN	1191
BBMP (NORTH)	1133
BBMP (SOUTH)	920

Saffron camp worried over losing Lingayat votes

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

BJP, which received Lingayat votes almost en bloc in 2018, cannot expect a repeat this year. This likely shift is worrying saffron party leaders, and the change is being wrought by members of the Jagathika Lingayat movement, Panchamsali groups and Rashtriya Basava Dal, who are openly working against BJP.

Making the community's stand quite clear, Panchamsali pontiff Basava Jaya Mrityunjaya Swamiji said, "Our anger is purely on the issue of reservation. It has been two years and they have not addressed our concerns. We have been protesting for 65 days at Freedom Park in Bengaluru and the government has not had time to talk to us. But Congress and JDS came and met us." Panchamasalis are demanding a 2A reservation tag for the community. Former bureaucrat SM Jamdar, who is now associated with Lingayat movements, said, "There are huge cracks in the Lingayat support for BJP." Veerashaiva Mahasabha Secretary Renuka Prasanna said, "Lingayats generally support those who stand by the community. But this time, it appears to have dampened after the exit of Yediyurappa as CM, especially after he shed tears."

Former MLC from BJP Go Madhusudan said, "Those opposing us are originally pro-Congress forces and are not moving away from BJP. Lingayats will continue to support us as they don't trust others.'' Political analyst BS Murthy said, "The erosion of Lingayat support has been obvious in social media. Many volunteers, including those from the Panchamasali subsect, are canvassing against BJP. Unless they are won over, it will be difficult for BJP."

Goyal meets industrialists for manifesto inputs

ENS @ Hubballi

UNION Commerce and Industries Minister **Piyush Goyal** described Hubballi city being full of resources and potential to grow as a large industrial hub and conducive to startups.

Goyal held an hour-long meeting with industrialists to gather their suggestions for the party manifesto for the upcoming Assembly elections.

Recalling his experience about starting his own industry, he said he had visited the same offices around 90 times for permissions. "Things have changed after the BJP government came to power at the Centre. Now, people can get the permissions online. The single-window system has been introduced, and ease of business has been ensured for startups," he said.

He also briefed the industrialists on the initiatives taken by the central government to ensure that the government is corruption-free.

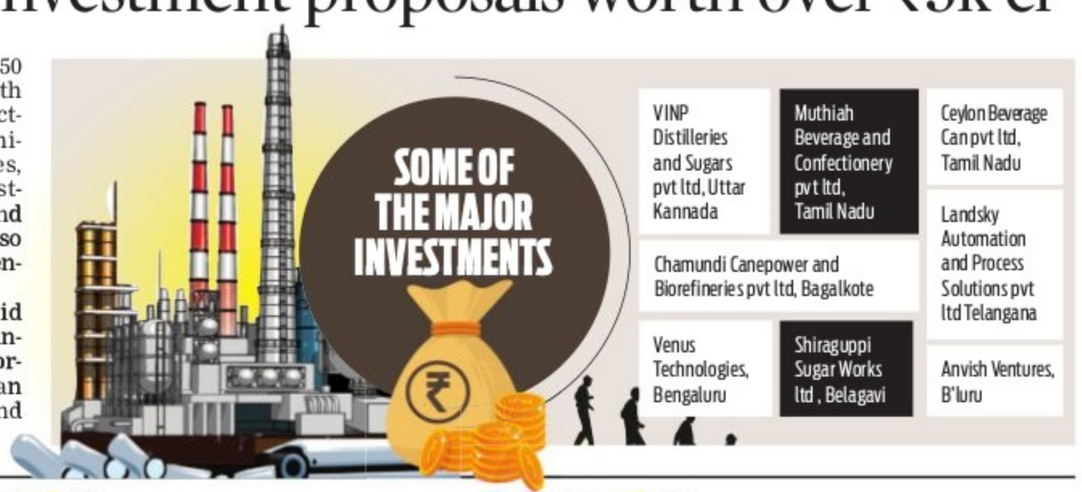
Industry dept clears 78 investment proposals worth over ₹5k cr

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

The State Industries and Commerce Department has recently cleared 78 investment proposals worth Rs 5,298.69 crore. According to them, it has potential to create close to 14,000 new jobs.

The 138th State Level Single Window Clearance Committee (SLSWCC) meeting held under the chairmanship of Industry Minister Murugesh Nirani approved 17 important large and medium size industrial projects with investments over Rs 50 crore. These projects are worth Rs 3,552.66 crore and are expected to generate job opportunities for 6,933 persons. Besides, 59 new projects with investments of over Rs 15 crore and less than Rs 50 crore were also cleared that is expected to generate 6,984 jobs.

A department release said two projects of additional investment have also been approved, which will result in an investment of ₹203.15 crore and would create many jobs.


SOME OF THE MAJOR INVESTMENTS
VINP Distilleries and Sugars pvt ltd, Uttar Kannada
Muthiah Beverage and Confectionery pvt ltd, Tamil Nadu
Ceylon Beverage Can pvt ltd, Tamil Nadu
Landsky Automation and Process Solutions pvt ltd Telangana
Chamundi Canepower and Biorefineries pvt ltd, Bagalkote
Venus Technologies, Bengaluru
Shiraguppi Sugar Works ltd , Belagavi
Anvish Ventures, B'luru

Miscreants murdered a youth over bike stunt at Bhuvanahalli on the outskirts of Hassan city on Saturday. A three-member gang allegedly picked up a quarrel with Sumanth (19) who was allegedly doing bike stunts despite warnings. They stabbed him after a verbal duel. Sumanth was declared dead in the hospital. The police have arrested the accused

XBB1.16 suspected to be driving cases in K'taka: Experts

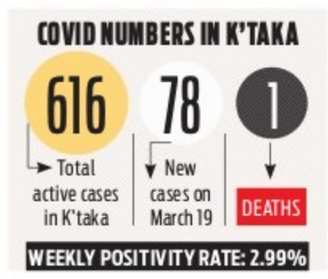
Thirty new cases detected in state; Elderly with comorbidities infected with past variants hospitalised

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

WITH active Covid-19 cases crossing the 600-mark in Karnataka, XBB1.16, a new variant that has emerged in India, could be driving the rise in cases, feel experts.

Thirty new cases of XBB1.16 have been identified in Karnataka since the beginning of the month — the highest in the country.

Dr Sharif, deputy director, National Centre for Vector Borne Diseases Control, confirmed the presence of the new variant in the state. He said that the new variant might be responsible for the rise in cases. He, however, said XBB1.16 has not resulted in hospitalisation. "Most people seeking admission are those infected with the past variants and are the elderly and those with comorbidities," he clarified.



Doctors from the Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI) said that those infected with the new variant showed symptoms similar to the past variants and there is no need to panic. According to the Indian SARS-CoV- 2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG), 76 cases of XBB1.16 have been found in India so far. Besides Karnataka, the new variant has also been found in Maharashtra (29), Puducherry (7), Delhi (5), Telangana (2), and one each in Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh and Odisha.

Meanwhile, the state health department on Saturday revised its guidelines to tackle Covid-19. The prevailing Covid-19 situation demands an in-depth examination to ensure it is well managed, the advisory read. Health officials have been told to follow Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB), monitor ILI/SARI cases and emerging clusters.

Case against youth for reciting azaan during stir

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Shivamogga

SHIVAMOGGA police booked a preventive case against a youth who recited Azaan (Muslim call for prayer) during a protest in front of the DC's office on Friday. The youth recited the azaan during a protest against MLA KS Eshwarappa who allegedly insulted azaan. The police warned the youth and let him off later. The video of the youth reciting azaan was shared on social media platforms.

The Muslim community staged the protest to condemn Eshwarappa's alleged statement that loudspeakers used for Azaan disturb people. Eshwarappa allegedly asked, "Will Allah listen only if the prayers are given through loudspeakers?" When the protest was being staged, the youth recited the azaan. Responding to the incident, the police booked a preventive case against the youth.

"The person was called and warned not to do it and sent back. A preventive case has been booked against the person. We are also verifying the antecedents of those who participated in the incident. Based on the probe, action will be taken," said SP Mithun Kumar GK. It may be recalled that while addressing a Vijaya Sanklpa Yatra at Shantinagar in Kavur of Dakshina Kannada district recently, the azaan was heard. Eshwarappa allegedly made a controversial statement. Defending it, Eshwarappa said loudspeakers used for Azaan disturb people, especially students studying for exams and patients in hospitals.

"I have not shown disrespect to any religion with my statement," Eshwarappa had said.

Nimhans to mark head injury day

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) will observe World Head Injury Awareness Day on Monday to raise awareness about head injuries as well as medical and surgical management and rehabilitation.

The theme this year is 'Safer You and Safer Nation, Your Wellbeing on the Road' as road accidents are the most common cause of head injuries in India. Around 50-80 per cent head injuries in India are caused due to road accidents and nearly 1.51akh people -- 34,647 from Karnataka with 654 from Bengaluru -- were reported dead in road accidents in 2021.

The number of people who needed hospitalisation were 30 times the number of deaths. Non-compliance of traffic rules is a major cause of people meeting with accidents and sustaining head injuries. Hence, NIMHANS aims to highlight these issue in a bid to reduce road crash injuries in the state and the country.

In a press release, NIMHANS stated that reducing brain injuries needed multidisciplinary and inter-sectoral efforts to ensure road safety for both users and vehicles as well as good quality post-trauma care. Wearing ISI-mark helmets, seat belts, not over speeding and drunken driving can significantly reduce the risk of road accidents.

Couple cheated of ₹3.7L by conmen using Bescom bill

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A famous city restaurateur and his wife were cheated of Rs 3.7lakh by online fraudsters claiming to be from Bescom.

Diana D'Souza, wife Blaise D'Souza, said the fraudsters removed the money from their joint account in Yes Bank, and attempted to hack their Axis Bank account, but failed.

It started with a message on February 28, saying their Bescom bill payment had not been updated. "Dear customer, your electricity will be disconnected tonight at 9.30pm as previous month's bill has not been updated," read the message.

Diana then got a call from a person who introduced himself as Sharma. "He claimed to be a Bescom officer, and first asked for my number. He gave me the correct RR number of the bill and bank details. Then he hacked our joint account in Yes Bank and withdrew money," she said.

"He then attempted to hack Blaise's Axis Bank account. He withdrew Rs 11, and attempted to withdraw Rs 20,000, and again Rs 40,000, but was not successful because an alert manager blocked the transactions."

Diana is surprised that despite reporting the case to cyber cops, the conman's mobile number 9046830414 is still in operation. ''Also, a second message came from another number, 8987904318,'' she said.

The fraud is the latest in a string of similar cases in which conmen pose as Bescom officers and gain access to people's accounts.

"The fraudster appears to have done complete homework on our account details, and has the RR number of our domestic power connection. He also asked me which phone I use. Since I have an iPhone, he cut the call and called my husband Blaise D'Souza.'' When Diana got suspicious, she tried to cut the calls but Sharma persisted, and asked why she was cutting the calls.

HELPING HAND

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot hands over an artificial limb at a camp on Bull Temple Road organised by Narayan Seva Sansthan in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS READ

TECHIE TRIES TO KILL WIFE, STABS HIMSELF

Bengaluru: A software engineer, Harsha, allegedly tried to murder his wife, Sudharani, also a software engineer, and then attempted to kill self in Rajarajeshwari Nagar police station limits. Police said the couple hailed from Tumakuru and settled in the city a decade ago. Few months ago, Harsha sold his land in his hometown after which he quit his job and became an alcoholic. The couple fought frequently. "Following a fight on Friday night, Harsha tried to kill his wife by banging her head against the wall. After she collapsed, he tried to take his life by stabbing himself. Their 12-year-old son alerted the relatives who rushed to their house and shifted them to hospital. Both are recovering. We have booked a case against Harsha and are investigating," the police added.

SAD DEMISE

GAJARAJAN SHANTHAKUMAR

03.08.1946 - 18.03.2023

In remembrance of Late Gajarajan Shanthakumar who touched everyone he met with his kindness and made the world a happier place.

Cremation : on 20.03.2023 at Hebbal Crematorium, 10:30 am

Fondly Remembered by : Family and Friends

Karnataka Urban Water Supply & Drainage Board
Office of the Chief Engineer
Jalamandali Compound, Sir.M. Vishveshvarayya Road,Dharwad-580 001
Tel No: 0836-2447090 E-mail: kwbcen@gmail.com

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal only)

Tenders for the following works are invited (two cover system) through e-Procurement portal (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) from the eligible Agency / contractors who satisfy the Technical & Financial eligibility criteria. **This office Tender Notification No: 2675, Dated: 16-03-2023. (1)** Providing Water Supply Distribution System to Muddebihal Town under AMRUT 2.0 including Operation & Maintenance for a Period of 5 Years (Including 1 year DLP) through Design, Build, Operation and Transfer (DBOT) Mode. (Lumpsum Tender – No Variation). **WORK_INDENT3369. (2)** Remodeling of Water Supply Distribution system to Chadachan Town under AMRUT 2.0 including Operation & Maintenance for a Period of 5 Years (Including 1 year DLP) through Design, Build, Operation and Transfer (DBOT) Mode. (Lumpsum Tender – No Variation). **WORK_INDENT3370.** For further information visit e-procurement portal or the Office of the Chief Engineer, K.U.W.S & D. Board, Dharwad may be contacted.

DIPR/DWD/1289/2022-23/DeshpandePublicity

Sd/-CHIEF ENGINEER,
KUWS & D BOARD, DHARWAD.

ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ ಎಣ್ಣೆಬೀಜ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರ ಸಹಕಾರಿ ಸಂಘಗಳ ಒಕ್ಕೂಟ ನಿಯಮಿತ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ KOFಪ್ರಾ

ತಾಜನಗರ, ಹೆಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ - 580031 kof.hubli@gmail.com

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.ಪ್ರಾ.ಎ.ಒ.ಹು/ಆಡಳಿತ/ನೇಮಕಾತಿ/2022-23/536 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 18-03-2023

ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ ಎಣ್ಣೆ ಬೀಜ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ ಒಕ್ಕೂಟ ನಿ., ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ನೇಮಕಾತಿಗಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಂದ ನಿಗದಿತ ನಮೂನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ಹೆಸರು	ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ವೇತನ ಶ್ರೇಣಿ (ರೂ)
1	ಎಕ್ಸಿಕ್ಯೂಟಿವ್ (ಪಿ & ಐ)	2	33450-62600
2	ಅಸಿಸ್ಟಂಟ ಎಕ್ಸಿಕ್ಯೂಟಿವ್ ಅಕೌಂಟ್ಸ್	2	21400-42000
3	ಅಸಿಸ್ಟಂಟ ಎಕ್ಸಿಕ್ಯೂಟಿವ್ ಕಮರ್ಷಿಯಲ್ / ಮಾರ್ಕೆಟಿಂಗ್	4	21400-42000

ಅರ್ಜಿ ನಮೂನೆ, ವಯೋಮಿತಿ, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆ, ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ, ಆಯ್ಕೆ ವಿಧಾನ, ಸೂಚನೆ ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಬಂಧನೆ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ವಿವರಗಳು ಒಕ್ಕೂಟದ www.kofhubli.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿದ್ದು, ಅರ್ಹ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು 10-04-2023 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆ ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಆಫ್‌ಲೈನ ಮೂಲಕ ನಿಗದಿತ ನಮೂನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು.
ಪ್ರಾ.ಎ.ಬಿ.ಬೆ.ಸ.ಸಂ.ಒ.ನಿ., ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಪರವಾಗಿ

SHRIRAM HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

SHRIRAM HOUSING FINANCE

Reg.Off.: Office No.123, Angappa Naicken Street, Chennai-600001
Head Office: Level 3, Wockhardt Towers, East Wing C-2 Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai 400 051. Website: www.shriramhousing.in

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas the undersigned being the authorised officer of Shriram Housing Finance Limited (SHFL) under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notices are hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of SHFL has taken the Symbolic possession of the mortgaged properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules, on this **16th day of March 2023.**

Borrower Name and address	Amount due as per Demand Notice	Description Of Mortgaged Property
1.MRS. R JAYAPADMA W/O N Venkatachalapathi, No. 23, I Floor, 5th Cross, RMV 2nd Stage, Lottegollahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka – 560 094 **2. MR. N VENKATACHALAPATHI, S/O Nanappa, No. 23, I Floor, 5th Cross, RMV 2nd Stage, Lottegollahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka – 560 094** **Also at:** **M/S. ANGEL SECURITY SERVICES, No. 23, Ground Floor, 5th Cross, Near Jalgiramma Temple, Rmv 2nd Stage, Lottegollahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka – 560 094**	Rs. 23,85,273/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Eighty Five Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy Three Only) in respect of Loan Account No. SLPHBANA00000 22 as on 8.12.2022 with further interest at the contractual rate, within 60 days from the receipt of said notice. Notice dated: 15.12.2022	All that piece and parcel of Western portion of the Residential Property bearing No. 23, Old Khatha No. 246, Present BBMP Khatha No. 181/130/1/246/5/1/23, Situated at Lottegollahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru, Measuring East to West 15 feet North to South 40 feet, in total measuring 600 Sq Ft and bounded on: East by : Remaining Eastern portion of same Property No. 23 belonging to Munivenkata Rathnamma. West by: Property No. 22. North by: 20 feet Road. South by: Property No. 32.

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SHFL is in the lawful Symbolic Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SHFL.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of sub- section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Place: Bangalore
Date : 16/03/2023

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Shriram Housing Finance Limited

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Only through e-procurement portal)

BWSSB invites tenders from registered Agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (West), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560 009.

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount put to tender EMD Amount		Last date & time for receipt of tender	Date & time for opening of tender
1	West-2	BWSSB/EE(W-2)/PB/2620/ 2022-23 Date: 16.03.2023	1	Rs. 40,73,207/- Rs. 81,500/-	31.03.2023 up to 4.00 pm	02.04.2023 after 4.00 pm
2			2	Rs. 9,20,247/- Rs. 23,100/-		
3			3	Rs. 63,15,141/- Rs. 1,26,400/-		
4			4	Rs. 67,42,813/- Rs. 1,34,900/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (West)-2

Office of the Chief Engineer (Design & QA), 9th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560 009.

5	Quality Assurance	BWSSB/EQATE/PB/ 1407/2022-23 Date: 15.03.2023	Rs. 23,33,983/- Rs. 46,680/-	27.03.2023 up to 5.30 pm	29.03.2023 at 12.00 hrs.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Quality Assurance)

Office of the Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560 009.

6	East-1	BWSSB/EE(East)-1/PB/ 3227/2022-23 Date: 16.03.2023 (2nd Call)	1	Rs. 20,63,770.60 Rs. 50,000/-	03.04.2023 up to 4.00 pm	05.04.2023 after 5.00 pm
7			2	Rs. 27,59,128/- Rs. 55,190/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (East)-1

Office of the Chief Engineer (WWM-West), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560 009.

8	(WWM-STP) V.Valley	BWSSB/EE(WWM-STP) V.Valley/PB/770/2022-23 Date: 14.03.2023 (Reserved for SC Category)	Rs. 21,36,254/- Rs. 25,208/-	04.04.2023 up to 5.30 pm	06.04.2023 after 4.00 pm

Sd/- Executive Engineer (WWM-STP) V.Valley

Office of the Chief Engineer (Kaveri-O&M), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560 009.

9	Kaveri (O&M-1)	BWSSB/EE(K-O&M)-1/AE/ 3192/2022-23 Date: 17.03.2023 (2nd Call)	Rs. 47,22,325.00 Rs. 94,500/-	27.03.2023 upto 4.00 pm	29.03.2023 at 4.00 pm

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Kaveri O&M-1)

The details regarding participation in the tendering process and tender can be obtained by logging on to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/5355AKAR/22-23

RITES LTD., A Govt. of India Enterprise (Ministry of Railways)

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

GGM(P), RITES Ltd. Bengaluru invites Open Tenders on behalf of the Department of Collegiate and Technical Education, GOK, Bengaluru online percentage rate bids in Two Packet System for the following works:

NIT No. RITES/BLR/OT/01/2023 Date 18.03.2023, Construction of Govt. Polytechnic College at Nallekamanahalli, Medigeshi Hobli, Madhugiri Taluk, Tumkur District in Karnataka for Dept. of Collegiate and Technical Education, Govt. of Karnataka, Est.Cost is Rs.593.75 Lakhs (Approx.), **EMD Rs.5.94 Lakhs**, Period of completion 18 months, Last date and time of submission of bid 04.04.2023 upto 11.00 hrs. The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app.** Addendum / Corrigendum, if any, shall be hosted online only.

Sd/- Group General Manager (P)
RITES Ltd. Bangalore For and on behalf of Dept. of Collegiate and Technical Education, GOK

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

(Substituted Service of Notice to the Respondent by way of Paper Publiction Vide Court Order dated 07.03.2023)
CMP No. 198/2018
[Video Conferencing/ Physical hearing]
Canara Bank ....Petitioner
Vs
M/s. Astha Technologies Private Limited ...Respondent

To : Respondent
M/s. Astha Technologies Private Limited, No. 7, 2nd Cross, Mission Road, CSI Compound, Bengaluru - 560 027, Represented by its Managing Director Sri Anil Kumar.

Whereas the above named Petitioner has filed a CMP on this Court Under Section 11 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 as in the Copy annexed hereunto.

Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this Court in person or through and Advocate duly instructed or through some one authorised by law to act for you, in this matter on **11.04.2023 at 10.30 A. M.** in case you intend to contest the Petition. If you fail to appear, the petition will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this the **07th day of March 2023.**

By Order of the Court
Sd/-Asst. Registrar

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. E-Mail id : crmd@cityunionbank.in, Ph : 0435-2432322, Fax : 0435-2431746

TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.30,61,436/- (Rupees Thirty Lakh Sixty One Thousand Four Hundred and Thirty Six only)** as on **16-03-2023** together with further interest to be charged from **17-03-2023** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) M/s. Laharis Life Care, No.16/1, 1st Floor, 3rd Main Road, N.R. Colony, Behind Katte Balaga, Bangalore - 560019. No.2) Mrs. T.A. Leelavathy, W/o. H.L. Venkatesh, At No.11, 6th Cross, Near Sindhi Hospital, Sampagiram Nagar, Woodland Hotel, Wilson Garden, Bangalore - 560027. No.3) Mr. H.L. Venkatesh, S/o. H.K. Lakshman Murthy, At No.11, 6th Cross, Near Sindhi Hospital, Sampagiram Nagar, Woodland Hotel, Wilson Garden, Bangalore - 560027. No.4) Mrs. L. Radha, W/o. H.K. Lakshman Murthy, At No.11, 6th Cross, Near Sindhi Hospital, Sampagiram Nagar, Woodland Hotel, Wilson Garden, Bangalore - 560027. No.5) Mrs. H.L. Shyamala, W/o. B.A. Ramesh, At No.11, 6th Cross, Near Sindhi Hospital, Sampagiram Nagar, Woodland Hotel, Wilson Garden, Bangalore - 560027.**

Immovable Property Mortgaged to Our Bank

Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mrs. L. Radha, W/o. H.K. Lakshman Murthy, Mr. H.L. Venkatesh, S/o. H.K. Lakshman Murthy & Mrs. H.L. Shyamala, W/o. B.A. Ramesh)

All that Piece and Parcel of Land and RCC Residential Building with plinth area of Ground Floor 351 sq.ft. & First Floor 351 sq.ft. bearing Old No.68, New No.16/1, situated at 3rd Main Road, Division-50, Narasimharaja Colony, Near Dwaraka Hotel, Bangalore and Bounded on : East by : Vacant Space & Common Passage, West by : Private Property, North by : Private Property and South by : Property belonging to Smt. Jagadamba. Measuring : East to West 21 feet, North to South 20 feet in Total measuring 420 Sq.feet. Survey No. 365.

Reserve Price : Rs.44,00,000/-
(Rupees Forty Four Lakh only)

AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
27-04-2023	City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Basavanagudi Branch, No.194, Ground Floor, S.C.Road, Near Netkallappa Circle, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru Urban-560004. Telephone No.080-26612162, Cell No.9343879470.

Terms and Conditions of Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Basavanagudi Branch, No.194, Ground Floor, S.C.Road, Near Netkallappa Circle, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru Urban - 560004. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-26612162, Cell No.9343879470. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 18-03-2023 Authorised Officer

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287,
Telephone No. 0435-2402322, Fax : 0435-2431746, Website : www.cityunionbank.com

TUNGABHADRA BOARD: TB DAM

e-Procurement Short Term Tender Notice IFB No.183/2022-23 Dt.06.02.2023 (3rd Call)

Tender for 01 No. of Work in respect of HW & HLC Division, TB Dam under Empanelment of Quality Assurance and management consultancy services category is invited through 'e-Procurement'

Bid Document downloading Start Date & Time:	20.03.2023 at 11:00 AM
Bid Document downloading End Date & Time :	27.03.2023 at 3:00 PM
Bid Submission End Date & Time :	27.03.2023 at 5:30 PM
Date of opening of Commercial Stage:	27.03.2023 at 6:00 PM

Further details can be seen @ https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in

Ph: 08394-259114
Fax: 08394-259167

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer,
I.B, TB Board, TB Dam

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. SEE (W&M)/HSN/EE (O)/DCA/AEE-1&2/2022-23/6971-75 Date: 18.03.2023

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement portal only)

KPTCL, invites bids on Electronic mode **for Providing manpower services for carrying out shift operations and minor maintenance works at various 220/110kV, 220/66 kV, 110/11 kV and 66/11 kV Sub-stations** against the following bid enquiry numbers.

1) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/42** at 66/11kV sub-station **Arakalgudu, Bychanahally, Doddamagge, Mallipatna & Ganguru (Kallikoppalu)** in Arakalgudu & Holenarasipura Taluk, Hassan District.

2) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/43** at 66/11kV sub-station **Chikkabommenahally, Ramanathapura, Rudrapatna, Belavadi & Shanivarasanthe** in Arakalgudu & Somavarapete Taluk, Hassan & Madakeri District.

3) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/44 at 220/66/11kV** Receiving station, **Kadavinakote & 66/11kV sub-station Bandishettihally, Hallymysruru, Hangarahally & Malali** in Holenarasipura Taluk, Hassan District.

4) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/45** at 66/11kV sub-station **Doddahally, Doddakadanuru, Hadavanahally, Somanahally & Nagarathi** in Holenarasipura Taluk, Hassan District.

5) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/46** at 66/11kV sub-station Channarayapatna, Didaga, Hirisave, Sathenahally & Shettihally in Channarayapatna Taluk, Hassan District.

6) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/47** at 66/11kV sub-station **Baguru, K.Byrapura, Rampura, Udayapura and Holenarasipura** in Channarayapatna and Holenarasipura Taluk, Hassan District.

7) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/48** at 220/66/11kV Receiving station, **Yachenahally & 66/11kV sub-station Attichowdenahally, Hariharapura, Singapura & Nuggehally (M.Dasapura)** in Holenarasi pura & Channarayapatna Taluk, Hassan District.

8) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/49** at 66/11kV sub-station **Juttanahally, Manjunathapura, Mattanavile, Sharavanabelagola and Kundurumatta** in Channarayapatna Taluk, Hassan District.

9) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/50** at **Hettur, Kandali, Salagame, Magge and Yeslur** Sub-stations of 66kV Hassan Nodal centre (Batch-1).

10) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/51** at **KIADB and Ugane** Sub-stations 66kV Hassan Nodal centre (Batch-II).

11) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/52** at **Basavagatta, Dudda, Gorur, Shanthigrama and Mosalehosahally** Sub-stations of 220kV Hassan Nodal Centre.

12) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/53** at **Arehally, Belur, Gendehally, Gangur and Halebeedu** Sub-stations 66kV Belur Nodal centre.

13) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/54** at **Ballupete, Hanbalu, Hagare and Sakaleshapur**a Sub-stations 66kV Belur Nodal centre.

14) **Bid Enq. No.KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/55** at **Geejihally 220kV, Arasikere 110kV, Banavara, D.M.Kurke and Gerumara** Sub-stations of 220 kV Arasikere Nodal Centre.

15) **Bid Enq. No. KPTCL/SEE(W&M)/HSN/2022-23/56** at **Javgal Kondenalu, Kallusadarahally, Belagumba and Gandasi** Sub-stations 110kV Arasikere Nodal centre.

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The details regarding participation in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website: **https://eproc.kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink "e-procurement-kptcl" or **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **11.00 AM on 23.03.2023.** Any details required in this regard can also be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- **Superintending Engineer, Ele., Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavan, 2nd Floor, Santhepete, B.M. Road, Hassan – 573201. Ph: 08172-250765.**

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT OFFICER, BACKWARD CLASSES WELFARE DEPARTMENT, HASSAN. D.Devaraja arasu bhavan, Shree vidyagangapathi Temple Cross road, Near Akshavani, Salagame Road, Hassan-573202.

No.BCWD/Tender/CR-35/2022-23 Date:18-03-2023

Tender Notification : : Calendar of Events

INVITING TENDER FOR PROVIDING HUMAN SERVICES THROUGH OUTSOURCING AGENCY FOR OUTSOURCE STAFF (DATA ENTRY OPERATOR, COOK, ASSISTANT COOK, NIGHT WATCHMAN STAFF) TO TALUK OFFICE AND PRE METRIC AND POST METRIC HOSTELS OF BACKWARD CLASSES WELFARE DEPARTMENT, HASSAN DISTRICT "FOR THE YEAR 2023-24" 1.Tender Reference No and date: No.BCWD/Tender/CR-35/2022-23 Date:17-03-2023 2.AMOUNT PUT TO TENDER RS.(lakh): 740.92 lakhs 3.EMD AMOUNT IN RS.(lakh): 11.11 lakhs 4.Commencement of download of E-tender form from website: Date:18-03-2023 onwards 5.Pre Bid Meeting Date, Place and Time: Date:17-04-2023 Time 11.00 A.M. District office, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Hassan District, Hassan. (Place & Date May vary) 6.Last date & Time for submission of Tender: Till Date:16-05-2023 Time 5.30 P.M. 7.Date & Time of opening of Technical bid: Date:19-05-2023 Time 11.00 A.M. District office, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Hassan District, Hassan. (Place & Date May vary) 8.Date & Time of opening of Financial Bid: Date:22-05-2023 Time 11.00 A.M. District office, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Hassan District, Hassan. (Place & Date May vary) 9.Communication Address and Contact number for further enquiry: Website: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in or District office, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Vidya Ganapathi Temple. Road , Near, MCE, Hassan-573202, Telephone-08172-295108 Email:-dobcmHassan@gmail.com

Sd/- District Officer, Backward classes Welfare Dept, Hassan Dist, Hassan.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಊಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/ಎಂಸಿಎ/1284/2021–22

TPCODL

TP CENTRAL ODISHA DISTRIBUTION LIMITED

(A Tata Power and Odisha Govt. Joint Venture)
2nd Floor, IDCO Tower, Janpath Bhubaneshwar, Odisha 751022

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

NIT No: TPCODL/P&S/NIT/22-23/021

TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited invites open tender from eligible Bidders for the following:

Sl No	Tender Description	Tender Enquiry No.	Tender Fee inclusive of GST (Rs.)*	EMD (Rs. Lakhs)*	Last date & time of payment of Tender Fee
1	Rate Contract for 2 Years for 33KV, 11KV and 1.1 KV Associated works (Construction/ Augmentation) All Over TPCODL Area for Releasing New HT & LT Connection & Other Misc. Distribution Electrical Works	TPCODL/P&S/ 1000000355/2022-23	5,000	5.00	28.03.2023
2	Construction of Boundary wall fencing work at Elephant corridor & movement areas	TPCODL/P&S/ 1000000356/2022-23	5,000	1.00	27.03.2023
3	Rate Contract for SITC of ACs (Split/Window) at TPCODL offices	TPCODL/P&S/ 1000000358/2022-23	5,000	0.50	29.03.2023
4	Rate Contract for supply of Mobile Phones and Power Banks	TPCODL/P&S/ 1000000361/2022-23	5,000	2.00	29.03.2023
5	Rate Contract for supply of Bluetooth Printer and Dot Matrix Printer and cartridges for bill printing	TPCODL/P&S/ 1000000362/2022-23	5,000	0.50	29.03.2023
6	Rate Contract for PTR Overhauling	TPCODL/P&S/ 1000000360/2022-23	5,000	1.00	29.03.2023
7	Rate Contract for Supply of GI Angle, Channel	TPCODL/P&S/ 1000000359/2022-23	5,000	1.00	29.03.2023

For further details of Tenders, please visit Vendor Zone/Tender Section on TPCODL website https://www.tpcentralodisha.com. Future communication/corrigendum to tender documents, if any, shall be available on website.

CENTRUM HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

CENTRUM Home Loans — Aao milkar ghar banaye

Bangalore Branch : No. 61, D V G Road, I Floor, Above Shesha Matching Centre, Basavanagudi, Bangalore - 560004. Phone No. +91 9384627444.

DEMAND NOTICE : Notice Under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Asserts and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002.

You, the under mentioned borrower/ mortgagor is hereby informed that the Company ("We M/s.Centrum Housing Finance Limited (CHFL) having office at, No.88, Mount Road, Guindy, Chennai – 600 032, has taken over the Housing Finance including the loan portfolio and employees of National Trust Housing Finance Limited (NATRUST) as per deed of Business Transfer Agreement executed between National Trust Housing Finance Limited (NATRUST) and Centrum Housing Finance Limited (CHFL) dated 03.12.2022 with effect from 28.02.2023. Pursuant to the said agreement all right, title and interest, benefit in and to the Loans together with any incidental right thereto including the taken over of and benefits under the financial instruments relating to the Loans were taken over in favour of M/s. Centrum Housing Finance Limited (CHFL) along with all their securities. As per the said Agreement , M/s.Centrum Housing Finance Limited (CHFL) has become the full and absolute owner and as such it is the only person who legally entitled to receive the repayment of the Loans or any part thereof including the right to file a suit or institute such other proceedings in its own name and to take such other action as may be required for the purpose of recovery of the Loans as an assignee and not merely as a representative or agent of M/s. National Trust Housing Finance Limited (NATRUST).") has initiated proceedings against you under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and that the Notice under 13(2) of the Act sent to you by Registered Post Ack. Due for borrower/s has been returned undelivered. Hence you are hereby called upon to take notice and pay the outstanding loan amount mentioned against the said account with interest accruing there from within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the company will proceed against you by exercising its right under Sub-sec (4) of Section 13 of the Act by enforcing the below mentioned security to realize its dues with interests and costs. It is needless to mention that this Notice is addressed to you without prejudice to any other remedy available to the company.

Sl No	Name of the Borrower / Guarantor	Loan Account No, Date of Demand Notice / Amount Due
1.	**Applicant : Ms. Sarala G,** **Co Applicant-1 : Mr. Govindraj K ,** **Both are at :** S.S.K.residency, # 80/21, 1st Main, 10th Cross, S.G.Palya, Thavarakre Main Road, D.R.C. Post, Bangalore - 560029. **Applicant Working Address : Ms. Sarala G,** Accountant, V.J.cabs, **Co Applicant-1 : Working Address : Mr. Govindraj K,** Vehicle Maintainer, V.J.cabs **Guarantor : Working Address : Mr. M Shankar** Driver, V.J.cabs, All are at : #19/1, 16th Main,10th A Cross Btm, 2nd Stage,mahadeshwara Layout, Bangalore-560076. **Co Applicant-2 : Mr. K Prabhu** **Co Applicant-3 : Ms. Lakshmi P** **Both are at :** Kumaresh Building, Door No,10, 2nd Cross, Narayanappa Garden Bangalore-560029. **Guarantor : Mr. M Shankar,** No.15/1, L Cross, Madarsab Layout,N.G Palya,Bangalore 560029.	**Housing Loan A/C No. BLR02020101491, 15.02.2023 & Rs.6,85,301/-** (Rupees Six Lakhs Eighty Five Thousand Three Hundred And One Only)

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of bearing site No.39, Katha No.68/4, 39 situated at GarvebhaviPalya, Hongasandra Village Main Road, BeguruHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, Now comes under the Jurisdiction of BBMP Limits, measuring. Comprised Measured: 727.5 Sq.ft. + 134 Sq.ft., Totally 861.5 Sq.ft., presently within the Jurisdiction comes under Beguru Sub Registrar. For this within the boundaries are hereunder: **East by :** Private Property, **West by :** Site No.38 and Road, **North by :** Property belongs Chinna Swamy and **South by :** Private Property.

Date : 20.03.2023
Place : Bangalore

For Centrum Housing Finance Limited
Authorised Officer

IN THE COURT OF CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE (CCH3) AT BANGALORE P&S.C. No. 165/2023

Between: Mr. SYED SALEEM PASHA, Aged about 54 Years S/o Syed Aftab Ahmed, Presently residing at No. 23, 1st A-Cross, Ashwathnagar, RMV 2nd Stage, Dollars Colony. Bangalore 560 005. **...Petitioner**
And:
NIL **.....Respondent/s**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the above-named petitioner has made a petition to this Hon'ble Court District and Sessions Judge CCH 3 Bangalore under Section 276 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925 seeking issue Probate. Certificate declaring that the registered WILL, dated: 10-03-2015 in respect of the schedule property left by Late. Syed Jaffer, who died on 17-05-2022.Interested parties are hereby warned to appear before this court in person or by a pleader, auly instructed on the 19th day of April-2023 at 11.00 Am to show cause against the petitioner falling which the matter will be heard and determined ex-parte.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

SCHEDULE A PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the Land bearing Survey No. 26, measuring 7 Guntas, situated at Mangapur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Malur Taluk and bounded as Under. **East by:**Land belonging to Gafar Sab.**West by:**Land belonging to Syed Ibrahim & Hussain Sab Land.**North by:**Land belonging to Meer Razail, **South by:**Land belonging to Syed Ibrahim & Karimunnisa Land,

SCHEDULE B PROPERTY:**ITEM NO 1**All That piece and parcel of the Land bearing Survey No. 27 measuring 2 Acres situated at Pattiganahalli Village, Kasabahobli, Malur Taluk and bounded as Under,. **East by:**Land belonging to Venkatappa Son of Doddagundappa. **West by:** Land belonging to syed Unnisa,.**North by:** Land belonging to Syed Nizamuddin,**South by:** Land belonging to Syed Unnisa and Muningappa,

ITEM No: 2 All that piece and parcel of the Land bearing Survey No. 27 measuring 1 Acres 15 Guntas situated at Pattiganahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli,Malur Taluk and bounded as Under,.**East by:**Land belonging to Venkatappa Son of Doddagundappa. **West by:**Land belonging to Syed Nizamuddin, **North by:**Land belonging to Syed Nizamuddin **South by:** Land belonging to Syed Unnisa, Totally (both Item No: 1 & 2) measuring to an extent of 3 Acres 15 Guntas

SCHEDULE C PROPERTY All that piece and parcel of the Land bearing Survey Number 27 measuring 1 Acres 20 Guntas situated at Pattiganahalli Village, Kasabe Hobli, Malur Taluk and bounded as Under.**East by:**Land belonging to Muninagappa.**West by:** Land belonging to Syed Unnisa,**North by:** Land belonging to Syed Jaffer, **South by:** Land belonging to Changappa,

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this day of 17th March, 2023

Advocate For Petitioner:
Sridhar.M.J
VK & Co. No.2, Old No.3852/A, 4th Cross, 2ndMain, B-block, ward-66, Subramanyanagar, Bengaluru-21

By The Order Of The Court
Asst Registrar
City Civil Court
Bengaluru

IN THE COURT OF THE XXVI ADDL CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYO HALL, AT BANGALORE (CCH-20)
Misc. Petition No. 25063 / 2014
A/o
O. S. No. 26879/2010

BETWEEN : **Mr. Allen Ashlay George** Aged 59 years, S/o. Late Mr. Robert George, Residing at "Manna", No. 41, Champakadhama Layout, (Behind Balaji Kalyana Mantapa), Bannerghatta Town, Bangalore - 560 038 **: PETITIONER**

AND : **1. M/s. State Bank of Mysore** Mahalaxmi Layout Branch) Stressed Assets Resolution Centre, No. 10, 1st Floor, Sri Rama Seva Mandali Building, Wilson Garden, Bangalore - 560 027

2. Mr. M. D. Mohan Raj, Major, S/o. Late Devaiah, Residing at "Neeraj Villa", No.1370, Prashanth Nagar, Dasarahally, Bangalore - 560 057 **: RESPONDENTS**

SUMMONS FOR SERVICE TO RESPONDENT NO. 2 BY PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 (1-A) OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE, 1908

To: Respondent No.2
Mr. **M.D. Mohan Raj,** Major,
S/o. Late Devaiah, Residing at
"Neeraj Villa", No. 1370, Prashanth Nagar, Dasarahally, Bangalore 560 057

Whereas, the Petitioner has filed the above petition against the Respondents under Order IX Rule 13 read with Section 151 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 for an order setting aside the judgment and decree dated 17.06.2011 passed by the Learned XXVI Addl. City Civil Judge, Mayo Hall, Bangalore (CCH. No. 20) in O.S. 26879/2010 and to the restore the said suit in O.S. No. 26879/2010 on the file of the Learned XXVI Addl. City Civil Judge, Mayo Hall, Bangalore (CCH. No. 20) and for other consequential relief. You are hereby summoned to appear before the Learned Addl. City Civil Court, Mayo Hall, Bangalore (CCH. No. 20) in person or by pleader duly instructed on **24/05/2023 at 11.00 a.m.** to answer the same, failing which the petition will be disposed of exparte.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Learned City Civil Court, Bangalore this the 10th Day of March 2023.

By Order of the Court
Sd/- Deputy Registrar
City Civil Court, Bangalore

Advocate for Petitioner
M/s. Juris Consult, Advocates
2nd Floor, Krishna Complex,
No. 14, S.B.I. Road / Old Madras Bank Road, Bangalore - 560 001.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to the general public that, my client Mr. Mohammed Siraj Ahmed, S/o Late Abdul Khareem, aged about 62 years, No.281, 10th Cross, Narasipura Layout, Vidyaranyapura Bangaluru- 560097, is the absolute owner of the immovable property bearing old Sy. No .11new Sy. No.11/2, measuring 0-16 guntas, (totally measuring 17,424sq.cm) The said property has been bequeathed by his father Sri.Abdul Khareem by virtue of a WILL executed by him and Sri. Abdul Khareem died in the year 2008. Subsequently my client Sri Mohammed Siraj Ahmed become the absolute owner of the afore-mentioned property and is in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the property. Presently my client Sri. Mohammed Siraj Ahmed has decided to alienate the afore mentioned property as per his requirement. Therefore, if any person or persons Government or Quasi Government Authorities or any Revenue Officers or Authorities or any official orders with respect to the afore mentioned property are hereby requested to submit the same to the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this Notice. In the event, no objections or claims are received by the undersigned within the stipulated time, ny client will be advised to proceed with the alienation as per his requirement. In the event, any damage or loss caused to the third party or any other person or persons, my client is nor responsible for the same with respect to the afore- mentioned property.

R. Mahesh, B.A.L. LLB Advocate,
No. 438, 2nd Floor, 'Krupa Arcade',
6th Main Road, Rajajinagar 2nd Stage,
Opp. Café Coffee Day, Milk Colony,
17th Cross Malleshwaram West,
Bengaluru- 560 055.
Mob: 9845144043

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Public in general is hereby informed that, My clients namely Mallikarjuna S/o Narayanappa .J, aged about 41 years, R/at, No.38, A Road, 1st Main Hosaguddadahalli, VTC Bengaluru South PO. Government Electrical Factory, Bengaluru-560026 and Magadaiah S/o Rangaiah is ready to sale the property Site bearing No.1/3 site No.1, Hosakerahalli Municipal No1/3-1, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South measuring East-West 18 feet North South -30 feet (540Sq.feet) and East-West-12 feet, North South-30 Feet (360 Sq.feet) total measuring (900 Sq.Feet), situated at Hosakerehalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Now come under BBMP Limits and Magadaiah is executed the Un registered sale agreement vide E-Stamp Paper No.IN-KA1220157141319V in favor of Our Client and Our Client is ready to purchasing the said Site and.

Any persons/s, Bank/s Authorities has/have any objections for the Proposed said sale transactions or Claims any Kind whatever on the schedule property may lodge their claims/ objections with Documentary proof within 15 days from the date of Publications of this Notice with the undersigned failing which thereafter and any claims received thereafter shall not be considered / entertained and shall be deemed to have been waived and/or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property Site bearing No.1/3 site No.1, Hosakerahalli Municipal No1/3-1, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South measuring East-West 18 feet North South-30 feet (540 Sq.feet) and East-West-12 feet, North South-30 Feet (360 Sq.feet) total measuring (900.Sq.Feet) situated at Hosakerehalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Now come under BBMP Limits and bounded by:

East: Site bearing No.5, West: 20 feet Road, North: Site bearing No.2, South: 20 feet Road,

RAGHUNATHA .H.R, Advocate
#59/1, 11th Main Road, Near MSRIT, Mathikere, Bangalore-560054.
Mob: 8861288354

ಕಾವೇರಿ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ

(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಉದ್ಯಮ)

ಸಂ:ಕಾಇಂ/ಕಾನೀನಿನಿ/ಹಾನಾವಿ/ಪಿಬಿ/ಅ.ಟೆ.ಪ್ರ/14/2022–23 ದಿನಾಂಕ:

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 14/2022–23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: :09–03–2023

ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕಾವೇರಿ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ' ಇವರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವ ಸೇವೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ / ಜಲಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ/ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ / ಇತರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧೀನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಕ್ತ ದರ್ಜೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿ ನಂತರ ಕಾವೇರಿ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಸರು ದಾಖಲಿಸಿ ನೋಂದಾವಣಿ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಐಟಂವಾರು ದರದಲ್ಲಿ 03 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ರೂ. 80.00 ಲಕ್ಷದಿಂದ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ರೂ. 400.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳವರೆಗೆ ಮುಂಗಡ ಠೇವಣಿ (ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ) ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರೊಸೆಸಿಂಗ್, ಶುಲ್ಕ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿರುವಂತೆ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಗಳ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿವೆ:

1. ಖಾಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಡೌನ್ ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 15–03–2023 ರ ನಂತರ.
2. ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಯನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23–03–2023 ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ)
3. ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸ್ವೀಕೃತವಾಗುವ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ಡನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24–03–2023 (ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಯನಂತರ)
4. ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸ್ವೀಕೃತವಾಗುವ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ಡನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ಡಿನ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ಪಡೆದ ನಂತರ

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳು, ಸೂಚನೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಇ– ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿನ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಸೂಚನೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಯಮಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಹತೆ ಹೊಂದಿರಬೇಕು ಹಾಗೂ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಬದ್ಧರಾಗಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಳಸಹಿದಾರರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಪಡೆಯ ಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್
ಕಾ.ನೀ.ನಿ.ನಿ., ಹಾರಂಗಿ ನಾಲಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಸಾಲಿಗ್ರಾಮ

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भारत सरकार
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निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह
महेंद्रगिरि पी ओ-627 133
दूरभाष : 04637–28-1672|1582|3582
फैक्स : 04637-281681

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
ISRO PROPULSION COMPLEX
CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
MAHENDRAGIRI PO - 627 133
Telephone: 04637 – 28-1672 | 1582 | 3582
Fax: 04637 – 281681

ई-निविदा सूचना / E-TENDER NOTICE

दिनांक/Dated : 16-03-2023

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु **ई-निविदा** द्वारा मद–दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।
On Behalf of the President of India, item-rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for the following works:

क्र. सं. / Sl. No.	कार्यों के नाम [सिविल कार्य क्र.सं. 01 व 02 : विद्युत् कार्य - क्र.सं. 03 व 04] / NAME OF THE WORKS [CIVIL WORKS - Sl.no: 01 & 02 : ELECTRICAL WORKS - Sl.no: 03 & 04]	प्राक्कलित लागत Estimated Cost ₹(लाखों में) (in Lakhs)	कार्य पूरा होने की अवधि Period of completion	ईएमडी EMD(₹)
1	एनआईटी सं:आईपीआरसी/सीएमजी/टीडी/ई-128/एमआई/सीपीएच-64/2022-23	NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-128/MI/CPH-64/2022-23		
	आईपीआरसी, महेंद्रगिरि के ई.टी.पी. के पास खतरनाक ठोस अपशिष्ट भंडारण शेड का निर्माण Construction of Hazardous solid waste storage shed near ETP, at IPRC, Mahendragiri.	20.27	04 (चार महीने / Four Months)	40,600
2	एनआईटी सं:आईपीआरसी/सीएमजी/टीडी/ई-170/एमडब्ल्यू-12/2022-23	NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-170/MW-12/2022-23		
	आईपीआरसी, महेंद्रगिरि के सी.आई.एस.एफ. हाउसिंग कॉलोनी में उप अधिकारी बैरकों (4 सं.) का निर्माण | Construction of sub - officer barracks (4 Nos.) at CISF Housing Colony, IPRC, Mahendragiri.	34.32	06 (छह महीने / Six Months)	68,700
3	एनआईटी सं:आईपीआरसी/सीएमजी/टीडी/ई-129/एमआई/ईलई-36/2022-23	NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-129/MI/ELE-36/2022-23		
	आईपीआरसी, महेंद्रगिरि के सी.एच.पी.आई. के पास विद्युत् वितरण प्रणालियों का नवीनन | Renovation of Electrical Distribution Systems near CHPI, at IPRC, Mahendragiri.	6.94	06 (छह महीने / Six Months)	13,900
4	एनआईटी सं:आईपीआरसी/सीएमजी/टीडी/ई-169/एमडब्ल्यू ईलई-15/2022-23	NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-169/MW/ELE-15/2022-23		
	आईपीआरसी, महेंद्रगिरि के एम.आर.एस. सबस्टेशन और आई. एल.एच.पी. सबस्टेशन में विद्यमान एच.टी.वी.सी.बी. पैनलों को बदलना | Replacement of existing HT VCB panels in MRS substation and ILHP substation at IPRC, Mahendragiri.	161.88	06 (छह महीने / Six Months)	3,23,800

ऑनलाइन निवेदन करने की तिथि : Dates for Online Request : From **20-03-2023 [10:00 बजे/hours]** से To: **31-03-2023 [18:00 बजे/hours]** तक।

प्रस्तुतीकरण की तिथि व नियत समय : Due Date & Time of Submission : **04-04-2023 [18:00 बजे/hours]** तक।

नोट : उपर्युक्त कार्य (कार्यों) के लिए भविष्य में सभी पत्राचार (शुद्धिपत्र) केवल उपर्युक्त वेबसाइट पर ही प्रकाशित किए जाएंगे।
Note : All future correspondence (Corrigenda) for the above work(s) shall be published only on the websites mentioned above.

समूह निदेशक, सीएमजी, आईपीआरसी / GROUP DIRECTOR, CMG, IPRC.

RBL BANK LTD

Registered Office: 1st Lane, Shahpuri, Kolhapur-416001.
Branch Office: Prestige Towers, 3rd Floor, 99 and 100, Residency Road, Bangalore, Karnataka-560025.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

The Authorised officer of **RBL Bank Ltd.** under Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued demand notice calling upon Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor and the public in general that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **RBL Bank Ltd.** has taken **SYMBOLIC POSSESSION** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said rules as per detail below:

Sl. No.	Name of Account and Address of the Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Demand Notice Date	Amount Due (Rs.)	Details of the immovable property for which Symbolic Possession is taken	Date of Symbolic Possession
1	**Mr. Rajesh Joshi,** Block-D, Flat No.M12, Millinium Habitat, Brookfields, Bangalore-560037, Also at: M/s. IBM, Embassy Golf Link, Block A, Bangalore-560071	31-12-2022	Rs. 12,35,905.20 (Rupees Twelve Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Nine Hundred Five And Twenty Paisa Only) as on 31-12-2022	**SCHEDULE 'A'** **(ENTIRE PROPERTY IN WHICH THE BUILDING IN CONSTRUCTED)** All that piece and parcel of residentially converted property being lands bearing Survey No. 29 in full and parts of Survey Nos.23, 24, 27, 28, 31 and 32, Munnekolala Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring 11.80 Acres(11 Acres 32 Guntas) and all other appurtenances and **bounded as follows:- On The East:** Survey No.32, 31 and 27 belonging to Spice Garden; **On The West:** Land belonging to Usha Martin Power Company Ltd. (earlier belonging to M/s. Canara Housing Development Company); **On the North:** Tank in Survey No.25 and K.G.Chinnappanahalli; **On The South:** Bangalore-Whitefield Main Road. **SCHEDULE 'B'** **(PROPERTY CONVEYED UNDER THIS DEED)** An undivided 0.119% (Zero Point One One Nine Percent) share (equivalent to 613.342 Square Feet) in the land comprised in the Schedule 'A' Property. **SCHEDULE 'C'** **(DESCRIPTION OF THE APARTMENT CONSTRUCTED BY THE PURCHASERS THROUGH THE VENDOR UNDER SEPARATE CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT)** A Three Bedroom Apartment with Mosaic Flooring bearing No. 808 on the Eighth Floor, in the "RF" Block, of the multi-storeyed Building known as **"PURVA RIVIERA"** constructed in the Schedule 'A' Property with a super built-up area of 1583 square feet (i.e., built up area of 1312 Square Feet and common area of 271 square feet) (which is inclusive of balconies and a proportionate share in the common areas including a share in the area of the Resort and Spa) together with one covered car parking space.	17-03-2023

The Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **RBL Bank Ltd.**

Place: Bangalore, Date: 20-03-2023 **Sd/- Authorised Officer, RBL BANK LTD.**

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK

(A scheduled commercial bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 &12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangala Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

E-AUCTION NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE THROUGH E-AUCTION UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT (SARFAESI ACT) 2002, READ WITH PROVISO RULE 8(6) & 9 OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002.

The undersigned as authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the following property in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT. The Borrower in particular and public at large are informed that online auction (e-auction)of the mortgage property in the below mentioned account for realisation of dues of the Bank will be held on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS "** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** on the date as prescribed as here under.

Sr. No.	Loan Account Number	Name of Original Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor	Date of 13-2 Notice	Date of Possession	Present Outstanding balance as on 16.03.2023	Date & Time of Inspection of the property	Reserve Price in INR	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in INR	Date and Time of E-Auction	Last date TIME & Place for submission of Bid
1	45349670000050 45348950002780 45349670000225 & 45349630000140	**1) M/s. Lakshmi Pathi N** Prop. **N S Fresh Look Ladies Beauty Parlour** Rep by Prop. **Mr. Lakshmi Pathi, 2) Mr. Lakshmi Pathi N**	11-06-2022	08-09-2022	**Rs.18,15,839/-** (Rupees Eighteen Lakh Fifteen Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Nine Only)	**27.03.2023 Time 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM**	**Rs.19,50,000/-** (Rupees Nineteen Lakh Fifty Thousand Only)	**Rs.1,95,000/-** (Rupees One Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Only)	**04.04.2023 Time: 02:00 PM to 03.00 PM**	**03.04.2023 Till 5.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., Head Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.**
	Details of Secured Assets: All the Peace and Parcel of the Immovable Property bearing Vacant Site No.1018, Out of Katha No.341, Formed in Converted land bearing Survey Nos.172, Converted for Non-Agriculture industrial (Hi-Tech) purposes as per Official Memorandum Bearing No.ALN(ASH)SR/95/2012-13, Dated 03.09.2013 issued by the Assistant Commissioner, Bangalore District, Situated at Chikka Nagamangala Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. Measuring East to West: 27'-6" (Twenty Seven Feet Six Inches), North to South: 30'-0" (Thirty Feet) in all total measuring 825 Square Feet and **Bounded as follows: East by:** Land bearing Sy.No.171, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Site No.1019.									
2	45348640000456 & 45349660000899	**1) Fab Tailors, 2) Mr. Venugopal Reddy N**	17-11-2022	06-02-2023	**Rs.34,27,041/-** (Rupees Thirty Four Lakh Twenty Seven Thousand Forty One Only)	**03.04.2023 Time 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM**	**Rs.52,56,000/-** (Rupees Fifty Two Lakh Fifty Six Thousand Only)	**Rs.5,25,600/-** (Rupees Five Lakh Twenty Five Thousand Six Hundred Only)	**19.04.2023 Time: 02:00 PM to 03.00 PM**	**18.04.2023 Till 5.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., Head Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.**
	Details of Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of Immovable property bearing Site No.33, Katha No.69 measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet situated at Anjanapura Village, Uttarahallihobli, Bangalore South Taluk and **Bounded on the: East by:** 20 ft. Road, **West by:** Site No.61, **North by:** Site No.32, **South by:** Site No.34. Measuring East to West 40 ft. and North to South 30 ft. totally 1200 square feet.									

The properties are being held on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** & **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** and the E-Auction will be conducted **'On Line'.** The auction will be conducted through the Bank's approved service provider **M/s. 4 Closure** at the web portal **https://bankauctions.in** & **www.foreclosureindia.com.** For more information and For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact **M/s. 4 Closure; Contact Mr. Bhaskar Naidu Contact Number: 8142000809/ 8142000061. Email id: info@bankauctions.in / subbarao@bankauctions.in.**

For further details on terms and conditions to take part in e-auction proceedings and any for any query relating to property please contact **Jana Small Finance Bank authorized officers Mr. Raghottama A. V. (9916382123) & Ms. Varshini G (7892506261)** To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there are no encumbrances on the properties. However the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property put on prior to submitting their bid. No conditional bid will be accepted. This is also a notice to the above named Borrowers/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors about e-auction scheduled for the mortgaged properties. The Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of auction, failing which the property will be sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date: 20.03.2023, Place: Bangalore **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

Union Minister for Tourism and Culture G Kishan Reddy has disclosed that PM Modi will lay the foundation-stone for the modernisation of Secunderabad railway station next month, when he will also be launching the new Vande Bharat Express from Secunderabad to Tirupathi

E-WAY LINKS CITIES, DIVIDES PEOPLE

B'luru-Mysuru E-way, while cutting short travel time, has left many by the wayside

AKNISREE KARTHIK AND KARTHIK KK @ Bengaluru, Mysuru

IT'S been exactly a week since the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway was thrown open to reduce travel time between the two cities. While the project has significantly reduced travel time, problems mar the route, which people say could have been avoided had the project been planned with vision, and toll collection be stalled till the service road is completed.

TNIE travelled on the six-lane e-way, from its starting point in Bengaluru till its end point in Mysuru, to know what commuters feel, the road condition, service road condition, and what local residents, shopkeepers and eatery owners say.

The project drew mixed reactions, with some commuters happy to cruise at over 100kmph, but felt the project had failed to address many small things. They also missed the pit stops for steaming hot local delicacies like thatte idli at Bidadi, and colourful wooden toys at Channapatna. They also complained of congestion at the entry and exit points, and pointed out that the e-way lacks basic amenities like toilets.

Confusion, congestion at starting point

Just before hitting the expressway, a traveller from Bengaluru has to pass through a congested stretch after NICE Road junction, near the Panchamukha Ganapati Temple. Hundreds of vehicles that exit NICE Road at Kengeri take a left, and merge with the traffic coming from Bengaluru city, creating congestion. Further ahead, confused commuters slow down to check if they have to take the flyover or go below, creating a block.

"People who want to head to Bidadi and Ramanagara have to go below the flyover, or pay the toll. Many commuters get confused, creating congestion before the e-way begins," said Subramanya, a regular on the e-way. As many commuters vented their anger against the collection of full toll fee even to reach Bidadi and Ramanagara, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has put up boards directing people heading to Bidadi and Ramanagara to take the service road, and warning that they have to pay the full toll if they take the flyover before Rajarajeshwari Medical College. Despite this, many commuters on two-wheelers and four-wheelers take the flyover, making a dangerous U-turn and head back on the same lane to take the service road. In the absence of patrolling and highway assistance, one could see trucks and cars that had broken down, and those involved in accidents, lying on the expressway for days.

The toll debate

Once on the flyover, a vehicle can easily cruise at 100 kmph and reach Kaniminike toll booth after the flyover ends. At the booth, commuters were seen arguing with the staffers, and more than 10 vehicles waiting to cross the toll gate even during non-peak hours. But, with the service road still incomplete after the toll booth, vehicles that chose to go below the flyover to avoid the toll, get on to the e-way without paying a paisa.

NHAI said they are yet to construct a service road for a stretch of about 100 metres, as the matter is in the High Court. When the stay is vacated, we will complete the stretch and prevent vehicles from entering the e-way, bypassing the toll, they said.

No steam at Bidadi eateries

While the e-way provides a diversion to commuters to reach Bidadi and Wonderla, there are very few who divert to savour the steaming thatte idlis.

"Earlier, we used to have more than 3,000 people coming to our hotel on weekends and holidays. Now, we've lost 70 per cent of our business. Except for old customers who take a deviation from the e-way, we get hardly any travellers," said Dayanand, owner of Hotel Guru in Bidadi, famed for its thatte idli. He laments that the 27-year-old hotel, which had nearly 20 staff, is downsized to five. Many hotels have pulled down shutters and hung 'to-let' boards.

(Top) Massive traffic congestion near NICE Road at the entry of the newly inaugurated Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway; (Above) Service road work in progress near Mandya | PICS: SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA & UDAYASHANKAR S

Toy City deserted

As the e-way bypasses the Toy City of Channapatna, many shops lie deserted. "Our main customers are highway travellers. We used to do good business on weekends and holidays but don't have any customers now," said a toy shop owner. He demands that thegovernment think about the future of artisans and shopkeepers, and make provision for them on the e-way. Contrary to claims that the service road is for people to reach Mysuru without paying a toll, the road is incomplete and leads to deadends.

"Before giving a U-turn diversion for e-way commuters to reach Channapatna, there is a railway track. Expressway users can cross the track by climbing a flyover. Those who go below hit a deadend as the service road ends at the railway track. People have to take a detour on the service road, reach Channapatna and then join the service road after travelling many kilometres," said Nanje Gowda, a local farmer.

Piping hot coffee at Maddur

"An hour-and-a-half long drive from Maddur to Mysuru on a weekend night with friends has been a mandatory for us for the past six years. Also, we would wait for about 45 minutes for our favourite coffee there. But over the past couple of weeks, we are able to reach Maddur from Mysuru in very little time," says Abhilash, a senior tester at an MNC, who was with school friends at a café in Maddur.

No underpass, villagers unhappy

While the BJP hopes that the project will help the party make inroads in Old Mysuru region, there is visible displeasure against the government and NHAI authorities among villagers, especially in the Mandya and Maddur belt. They feel the authorities have failed to fulfil promises and assurances they had made. Like Siddappa, a farmer leader in Hale Budnuru village, who was struggling to cross the expressway with his livestock to reach his farmland, which is in the opposite direction. "We were told the underpass which connects our houses and farmland would be finished soon. All other works are complete, even the project is inaugurated, but my struggle to cross the road with the fear of being hit by a vehicle has not ended," he said. Siddappa took nearly 15 minutes to cross the expressway.

Similar complaints were raised by Yogesh, who was crossing the expressway with a few items in his hand which he had purchased for his house, currently under construction. "It takes 6km for us to take a U-turn to reach the opposite direction to our village. While laying of asphalt and other work have been completed in a hurry when Prime Minister Narendra Modi was here to inaugurate the road, the underpass, which is under progress, is not completed," he said.

The villagers of Hale Budnuru said the expressway connects one city to another but at the same time, divides the village as they struggle to cross from one end to another.

Entry and exit points

This is just one instance of woes villagers are facing on the Maddur-Mysuru stretch of the e-way, as demands of additional underpasses, entry and exit points to villages and incomplete work on the main carriageway cause great inconvenience.

It has led to serious concern on the main carriageway, with many locals riding bikes on the one-way to avoid taking long routes, risking speeding vehicles coming from opposite directions. It could lead to vehicles losing control and colliding with each other, or the bikes losing balance and toppling to avoid hitting vehicles.

Work is still pending near Siddalingapura, Indavalu, where work on the service road and main stretch on the carriageway is still under construction. Though the authorities claim the six-lane expressway is completely access-controlled, a majority of covers have been damaged by villagers to gain access to the expressway. This causes vehicles to swerve into the service road before the toll booth and into villagers passing by, besides posing a disturbance to vehicles on the expressway.

"Highways should have emergency telephones at periodic intervals, and also display emergency helplines. Highway hospitals have to be equipped to handle such emergencies. When such a project is planned, there should be provision for an ambulance bay, first-aid centres and helipads, only then will we be on par with developed countries," said Dr NK Venkataramana, founder chairman & director, Brains Super Speciality Hospital, Bengaluru.

Good road, fast transport

The road quality seems good, and the objective of the project, which is to bring down travel time between the two cities, covering 118km within 90 minutes or less, has been served. This will help save fuel, reduce pollution and allow seamless, safer and faster inter-state travel from Karnataka to neighbouring states, besides hassle-free passenger movement. It provides fast, affordable transportation of agricultural projects and manufactured products to further boost socio-economic development of the region. "Travel time between Bengaluru and Mysuru has been considerably reduced, which is beneficial for trade, industries and the public. We require many more expressways in our state. Toll payment has commenced without proper development of service roads, which is very essential. It is suggested that toll charges be collected only after paving the way for districts and townships between Bengaluru and Mysuru," said B V Gopal Reddy, President, Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry. He also raised concern of trade and industry being affected by the toll, as the service road is not complete, and feared it would escalate prices.

Crime on the expressway

Another major concern is that of crime in recent times. Two couples from Mysuru were robbed at knife-point on the expressway. More CCTVs, including AI-installed features, can bring down the crime rate, as the organised syndicate can avoid taking chances on the road stretch. It can detect traffic violations and overspeeding, and serve notice to them.

What it needs

Though the six-lane expressway is all set, stretches of road where work is pending, including the service roads, should be finished at the earliest to achieve its full benefit. The main focus now should also be on providing wayside amenities, including proper toilets, fuel stations, food courts, parking spaces for vehicles, SOS and proper functioning of helplines, which was found dysfunctional during a check by *TNIE*. Commuters want congestion at the entry and exits of the e-way to be addressed. Though Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has assured that roadside amenities will be provided at 23 places, they must be installed within the next six months, with the focus on artists and artisans to display and sell their handicrafts, handlooms, silks, wood carvings, furniture and sandalwood products.

BIG PICTURE

E-WAY SPECS

Six-laning of B'luru-Nidaghatta section of NH-275 (package-1)

Length: **56.2 km**

Total cost: **₹4,429 crore**

Service road: **7 m wide for 55.76 km on both sides**

Bidadi bypass: **6.994 km**

Ramanagara and Channapatna bypass: **22.35 km**

Six-laning of Nidaghatta-Mysuru section of NH-275 (package-2)

Length: **61.1 km**

Total project cost: **Rs 4050.3 crore**

Date of completion: **March 31, 2023 (proposed)**

Service road: **7 m wide for 60 km on both sides**

Maddur bypass: **4.459 km**

Mandya bypass: **10.04 km**

Srirangapatna bypass: **8.194 km**

TOLL TO CROSS ₹250?

While NHAI is collecting ₹135 from cars for the 58km stretch from Bengaluru to Nidagatta, the second half of the e-way is yet to be tolled. Officials say the stretch from Nidagatta to Mysuru will cost around ₹120, putting the toll at above ₹ 250

Madras HC nod for AIADMK gen secy polls

R SIVAKUMAR @Chennai

THE Madras High Court on Sunday allowed the AIADMK to go ahead with its poll to elect its general secretary but the party cannot announce the results until March 24. Both the O Panneerselvam and Edappadi K Palaniswami factions of the party celebrated this as a victory for their side.

After hearing the arguments from the respective counsels for the sides of former chief ministers OPS and EPS at a special sitting of the court, Justice K Kumaresh Babu passed interim orders to allow the poll process to continue. .

However, when the judge asked if the results can be withheld until all petitions are heard, the counsels for the EPS side agreed. As the deadline for filing of nominations to the post closed at 3 pm, EPS was the sole contender, causing his supporters to claim the inevitable had merely been delayed.

The judge said he would hear all the petitions on March 22, although it's a holiday, and pronounce orders on March 24. Till then declaration of results is to be held back, he said. EPS' victory will depend on whether the court validates the resolutions adopted at the party's general council meet last July 11.

The AIADMK headquarters in Chennai

EPS sole contender for general secretary post

As the filing of nominations for the election to the post of AIADMK general secretary closed at 3 pm on Sunday, former CM and party interim general secretary EPS remained the sole contender

The AIADMK announced the poll to the general secretary post and schedule for the same on Friday, hours after the HC adjourned a hearing on plaints filed by OPS' backers PH Manoj Pandian, R Vaithilingam and JCD Prabhakar to April 11.

The HC refused to grant an interim stay as sought by plaintiffs on the July 11, 2022 GC meet resolutions, when EPS was appointed interim general secretary, but it permitted them to approach if any urgency emerged.

Illegal mining: ED attaches assets worth ₹5.21 cr

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Bengaluru Zonal Office, has provisionally attached assets — six immovable properties owned by the accused persons — worth Rs. 5.21 crore in a case related to illegal mining under the provisions of the Prevention of Money laundering Act (PMLA).

The case pertains to the trading of illegally mined iron ore by various traders. ED initiated an investigation under PMLA based on an FIR registered by the Special Investigation Team, Karnataka Lokayukta against Mineral Enterprises Ltd, unknown government employees and other unknown persons under various sections of the Mines & Minerals Development Regulation Act, 1957 and Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, following directives of the Supreme Court.

"During investigation under PMLA, it has been noticed that iron ore have been illegally mined, transported and traded without valid permits which caused loss to the exchequer. It has also been noticed that the source of such illegal iron ore are two mines owned by SB Minerals having partners - BP Anand Kumar, Panduranga Singh and Gopal Singh, one mine owned by Shanthlakshmi and J Mithyleswar and another mine owned by Bharat Mines and Minerals having partners – BMM Ispat Ltd and Dinesh Kumar Singhi," an official release read.

Earlier, the Supreme Court-appointed Centrally Empowered Committee (CEC), during its survey of mining leases in Karnataka, found gross illegalities/encroachment with respect to these four mines and kept them in C Category and on the recommendation of the CEC, the Supreme Court cancelled their licenses. "Investigation under PMLA has established that the accused persons have caused wrongful loss to the Government exchequer and corresponding wrongful gain to themselves. Further investigation is under progress," the release added.

SUNDAY, FUNDAY

With the mercury soaring, children take a plunge into the Bindusagar lake to beat the heat in Bhubaneswar on Sunday | SHAMIM QURESHY

Liquor scam: Kavitha leaves for Delhi

ENS @Hyderabad

A day ahead of the Enforcement Directorate notice to appear before it in the liquor policy scam, BRS MLC **Kalvakuntla Kavitha** on Sunday left for Delhi in a special aircraft from the Begumpet airport, accompanied by her husband Anil, brother and IT Minister K T Rama Rao, MPs Joginapally Santosh, Vaddiraju Ravi Chandra and others.

It may be recalled that Kavitha had skipped the inquiry on March 16, citing her petition in the Supreme Court, challenging the ED notice. The apex court listed her petition for hearing on March 24.

Meanwhile, the ED on Saturday filed a caveat, urging the Supreme Court not to pass

any orders until the probe agency's arguments were heard. Suspense continues over whether Kavitha will appear before the ED or send her lawyer on her behalf as she had done on March 16.

The ED is likely to confront the BRS MLC along with Arun Ramachandra Pillai, a Hyderabad-based liquor businessman accused of money laundering and providing illegal gratification to public servants to secure liquor licenses in Delhi. The investigating agency has secured the extension of his custody till Monday to complete the questioning along with Kavitha.

Woman dies of heart attack 3 minutes after sister's death

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Srikakulam

IN a tragic incident, a 55-year-old woman died of heart attack just three minutes after she came to know about her younger sister's death in Vasapa village in Kotturu mandal in the district.

The deceased siblings have been identified as 55-year-old Garugubelli Anasuyamma and 50-year-old Mamidi Sanyasamma. Though a pall of gloom descended over two families following the death of the siblings, however, the villagers were taken aback by the bonding of the sisters even in death. Anasuyamma had strong bonding with her younger sister Sanyasamma even after their marriage. Sanyasamma was suffering from cancer. Anasuyamma has been visiting her younger sister's house often to assist in day-to-day activities.

As a part of this, Anasuyamma went to Sanyasamma's house along with her husband to check on her sister on Friday. The duo spent good time. However, Sanyasamma suffered severe health issue while having her breakfast on Saturday morning. She breathed her last while she was being shifted to Srikakulam from a private hospital in Kotturu on Saturday evening. Shocked over the news, Anasuyamma couldn't bear the trauma of her losing her sister and died of an alleged heart attack in a few minutes.

6 killed, 3 injured as lorry rams minivan near Tiruchy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Tiruchy

SIX people, including a 10-year-old girl, were killed on the spot and three others injured in an accident at Thiruvasi in Tiruchy, Tamil Nadu, on National Highway 381B connecting Tiruchy and Namakkal during the early hours of Sunday.

According to the police the minivan bearing eight passengers and a driver was travelling from Edappadi in Salem to a temple in Kumbakonam when a lorry from Tiruchy, laden with logs, allegedly collided with it.

The police suspected that the lorry driver's attention might have strayed thereby causing the collision around 3.30 am.

Vathalai police registered a case and arrested the lorry driver, 43-year-old P Senthilkumar of Chinnavalayam near Jayankondam in Ariyalur. Senthilkumar was transporting the logs to a paper mill, police added.

EDITORIAL

"What colonialism does is cause an identity crisis about one's own culture" — Lupita Nyong'o

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

NIPPING THE EVIL OF KHALISTAN IN THE BUD IN PUNJAB

For someone who fancied himself as Bhindranwale 2.0 after he stormed a police station last month to get an associate freed, his escape from arrest on Saturday came as somewhat of an anti-climax. There was no valour in self-styled preacher Amritpal Singh slinking away when security forces intercepted his cavalcade. The police arrested many of his supporters though he managed to give the slip. His attempts to make a spectacle of the police action were foiled as Internet connectivity was suspended in the state. If the Punjab Police meekly capitulated in February last before a mob led by Amritpal that brandished swords and firearms, the personnel in khaki showed they were made of sterner stuff this time. It was a clinical operation to deny Amritpal the oxygen of publicity and public sympathy. The action was strategically timed a day after a G20 meeting in Punjab to keep international guests out of harm's way.

Amritpal has been styling himself like pro-Khalistan leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale by copying his attire and body language, holding an arrow, using religion as a shield and surrounding himself with a battery of armed bodyguards. But that didn't appear organic to security forces as he wasn't a trained preacher, nor did he follow Sikhism's tenets till he got radicalised in Dubai before returning home last year. He also sought to issue edicts without consulting those officially empowered by the faith to do so. His fiery speeches to whip up fanaticism became shriller by the day. He went on to warn Union Home minister Amit Shah and Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann they would meet the fates of Indira Gandhi and Beant Singh, respectively. Indira and Beant were assassinated in retaliation to Bhindranwale's murder in Operation Blue Star at Golden Temple in 1984. Yet, the state government dithered in taking action until Mann recently got a nudge from Shah.

Restlessness among the youth due to the lack of jobs, easy access to narcotics, gun-running from Pakistan, and a clueless administration have made the state a dangerous cocktail for anti-national activities. Amritpal is tapping into this groundswell of disenchantment to expand his support base with funds and directions from Khalistani separatists abroad working in tandem with Pakistan's deep state. He has to be neutralised before he becomes Frankenstein. One hopes the police action will draw bipartisan support from the political spectrum. Punjab cannot afford to slip back into the dark days of militancy.

RUPEE FAR FROM BEING A GLOBAL CURRENCY

What started as an effort to facilitate crude oil imports from Russia amid fear of sanctions from the US and Europe, the idea of using local currency—the rupee—for bilateral trade has now taken the shape of a narrative that rupee could soon become a 'global' currency. Those pushing this narrative are probably too unaware of the ground realities or doing it deliberately. After all, who wouldn't like to weave a positive story—however far-fetched it may be in reality—about the country? But beyond the euphoria and a PR exercise, one must not lose sight of ground realities: the rupee as a global reserve currency is too far away from reality.

To the government's credit, it has probably taken steps to internationalise the rupee and push rupee invoicing in international trade. The RBI and the Centre nudged Indian banks to open special rupee vostro accounts of banks from Russia, UAE, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, etc. But there have been no or very few transactions in those accounts. India is still buying Russian oil in dollars. Suppliers of imported goods don't accept rupee as they cannot use this in the international market. Talks to internationalise the rupee are not new. In the 1960s, the currency was regarded as the official currency of countries like Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates (then the Trucial States) and even Malaysia. Called the Gulf rupee, it was, however, slowly replaced by local currencies. For the Indian currency to become a global economy, it should have global acceptance. But the rupee's daily average share in the total foreign exchange market turnover is just 1.6% (up from 0.9% in 2007). Compare this to the US dollar, which accounts for 88% of turnover, followed by the euro (31%), yen (17%) and pound sterling (13%).

India does not allow full capital account convertibility—its currency cannot be freely exchanged with other currencies. One cannot even take more than $250,000 out of India without RBI approval. The reasons are a fear of short-term mass exodus of capital and massive exchange rate volatility. With India running significant current and capital account deficits, the fear of flight of capital in India is very high. And while we can push for the rupee's acceptance in international trade, we have to do a lot more groundwork to make the rupee a global currency.

QUICK TAKE

FAILING THE EXAM OF LIFE

The fifth student suicide in Kota this year happened last week. She hanged herself from a fan. Nobody in the Rajasthan government knows who defied the 2017 proposal for hostels to use lightweight fans that cannot take a load of over 20 kilos. Such superficial approaches don't really help. Cracking the IIT exam, among the world's toughest, needs in-class education systems to toughen students or counsel stragglers to look for options. Forcing them unprepared along the private coaching route is disastrous. That political quotas, diluted syllabi and grace marks create an artificial reality is something some students cannot suddenly accept is a mirage.

Indeed, it is the government's duty to care for the welfare of Indian citizens in other countries, more so a baby

CHILD CUSTODY ROW: SAGARIKA THEN, DHARNA NOW

BRINDA KARAT
Member, CPM Politburo and former member, Rajya Sabha

SOUMYADIP SINHA

Nikkhil Advani and Rani Mukherjee, with their film, *Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway*, have done a great service to the hundreds of Indian families and, indeed, families of immigrants from third-world countries who find themselves trapped in the often cruel ways of the child protection services (CPS) in Western countries where they may live.

The film is based on a book by a real-life heroine, Sagarika Bhattacharya, whose children were taken away from her in 2011, who fought Barnevernet, the all-powerful institution of the Norway Child Protection Services, the legal system and so-called child experts who had declared her an unfit mother, and who was finally reunited with her children a year later. Her valiant struggle transformed her from a bewildered, terrified, traumatised young mother to a strong independent woman taking on the system with the unstinting support of her wonderful parents, Shikha and Monotosh Chakraborty.

The adverse publicity for Barnevernet in the film prompted Gunnar Toreson, the former chief of the Stavenger Barnevernet unit who had dealt with the case of the Bhattacharya children, to comment, "The case was politicised. People were calling the Norwegian Embassy in Washington. ... Barnevernet had never experienced anything like this before." At the end of 2021, there were over 9,900 children taken away from their parents into foster care in Norway, of which 37% were from immigrant families. While children must certainly have protection where there is clear evidence of sexual abuse and violence, activists in Norway and other European countries have flagged the utterly arbitrary and even racist approach of the agencies.

Sagarika's father contacted me in early January 2012 after months of their painful and unsuccessful struggle, which seemed to have ended with the court finding that for the welfare of the children, they must be sent to foster care.

Our Embassy had done precious little to help the desperate parents. The case became complicated by the differences between the parents, which the Barnevernet used to substantiate their charges against Sagarika.

We had to use every fora available, including the support of then president Pratibha Patil, whom we met along with Sagarika's parents, Parliament, contacts with ministers, MEA officials, and women's street mobilisations primarily by the All India Democratic Women's Association. I met then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, who personally spoke to the external affairs minister at the time, S M Krishna, who, to his credit, followed up on the case to its resolution.

I spoke to Sushma Swaraj, then leader of the opposition in the Lok Sabha, and she not only strongly supported the struggle to bring the children back home in her subsequent speech in the Lok Sabha but also joined our protest outside the Norwegian Embassy, where Sagarika's parents were present. It was political intervention at all levels that helped Sagarika reverse the unfavourable court decision and bring the children back home. Women's issues are indeed political, we have fought to make them so, which is different from the "politicalisation" charge made by Gunnar Toreson to justify the inhumane approach in the Sagarika case. But it appears that our officials, embassies and governments have not learnt any lessons.

In November last year, I was introduced to a young Gujarati Jain couple, Dharna and Bhavesh, living in Germany where Bhavesh was working. Their seven-month-old baby girl Ariha had been taken into foster care by the German CPS. I learnt of their case through Suranya Iyer, the indefatigable warrior supporter of mother victims of CPS in various European countries. She had helped get custody of the children for Sagarika when they were back in India, and since then, she has been approached by more than 50 Indian couples who have lost their children to foster care.

Dharna and Bhavesh have met ministers and officials but it would appear that the utterly false narration of the CPS in Germany about the case was accepted by our Embassy as the gospel truth and conveyed to their bosses here in Delhi, who have not even bothered to study the papers. I did. They are as shocking and unacceptable as the charges that showed Sagarika as a mother incapable of looking after her children.

In September 2021, the baby suffered an injury to the perineum, the sensitive area between the vagina and the anus, when she was for a short time in the care of her paternal grandmother. She was taken to a hospital by her parents, where she was treated and sent home. Since the bleeding continued, the baby was again taken to the hospital, where she underwent a procedure for stitches. A police investigation was initiated. The mother was charged with sexual abuse of her baby, and the father with showing his sexual organs to the baby.

In February 2022, the police closed the case. So, there are no criminal charges against the parents which would warrant taking the baby away. As in Sagarika's case, the CPS stepped in. A psychological profile of the mother was created.

The hypotheses were that she could be responsible for extreme, inappropriate child care, causing the injury for a religious ritual, or being delusional and putting a spoon into the injured area. This preposterous profiling was discounted by a later report, but the CPS is using this to damn the mother. Dharna and Bhavesh have been allowed to meet their baby briefly once a month for a year and a half.

In a Facebook video, the distraught mother, recalling the incident, says the baby's grandmother saw the crying child in distress, examined her, and perhaps inadvertently worsened the injury the baby suffered by falling on a toy or her bowl or spoon in the playpen.

The exact sequence is unknown, but it is clear that it was an accident. Yet, the couple has received little support from our Embassy. Instead of sending their expert legal counsel, reportedly, the lawyer sent by the Embassy specialises in automobile accidents. The case hearing keeps getting postponed, now scheduled for May.

There is no Sushma Swaraj in the government today. But indeed, it is the government's duty to care for the welfare of Indian citizens in other countries, more so a baby. Even assuming the parents are "incapable", as charged by the German authorities, we have a robust extended family system in India. Relatives and the Jain community have declared their willingness to care for the child.

When audiences applaud the film depicting the battle of a mother to get back her children, I hope it will help another young mother, brave Dharna, and persuade the government to take the case seriously and bring baby Ariha back home.

WHEN THE MANLIEST OF GODS BECAME A MOTHER

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

With the holy days of Vasant Navratri starting this week, I would like to retell an unusual story about Lord Shiva. We know that Shakti is Shiva's other half. But in this story, Shiva did not ask Parvati to go in his place. He rushed to the rescue himself in the form of a mortal woman. Indeed, I have observed that the South has several stories in which Shiva gets actively involved in the lives of his devotees.

This story goes back to the sixth century in Tamil Nadu. There was a girl called Ratnavati who was an ardent devotee of Shiva, whom she worshipped by the name Sevadinath. She inherited this love from her father Ratnaguptan, who was a merchant and a man of faith. Ratnavati lived with her husband in Trichy. There were no elders or relatives at home, just the two of them. The husband, being a merchant himself, was often away on work. When Ratnavati became pregnant, she prayed every day to Shiva for the baby's health. She chanted *slokas* and did *puja*, offering bel leaves, water and milk. She firmly believed that Shiva would protect her family all the way.

But naturally, Ratnavati wanted her mother by her side during the birth. Nobody else would do. She sent word to her mother who lived some distance away across the river Kaveri. When the date drew near, Ratnavati's mother began to prepare her daughter's favourite snacks to take along. She also made the special restorative laddoos given to new mothers, some medicinal oil, a big jar of ghee from pure cow's milk and the herbal jam called *lehiyam*, known as *chyavanaprash* in the North. Trichy was a few days' journey away and she set out in good time with two attendants. But when they neared Trichy, they found to their dismay that the Kaveri was in flood and impossible to cross just then.

While her mother fretted on the far bank of the Kaveri, Ratnavati went into early labour and began to panic. It was bad enough that her husband was away on work, planning to be back before the baby was due. But where on earth was her mother? As the sky grew dark and rain clouds began to empty on Trichy, she prayed desperately to Shiva, "Dear God, my saviour, my lord Sevadinath. You have two beautiful children, and all of us here are your children, too. I'm sure you understand how much I need my mother now. Please don't leave me alone, please help me."

Ratnavati had barely finished her prayer when she heard a knock on the door. There stood her mother, beaming, carrying many baskets and bundles. Relieved and happy, Ratnavati let her mother take charge. With her mother's able help, she delivered a beautiful baby. Her mother saw to the house and the child. She dosed Ratnavati with healing syrups, let her sleep undisturbed, cooked nourishing meals and kept the house fresh and tidy. She did not let Ratnavati pick up even a small pot of drinking water. Ratnavati felt thoroughly pampered by all this loving care.

ASHWIN PRASATH

> Her husband was away on work, planning to be back before the baby was due. But where on earth was her mother? As the sky grew dark and rain clouds began to empty on Trichy, she prayed desperately to Shiva

After a few days, Ratnavati heard a knock and went to the door. She was shocked to see her mother and the two attendants.

"My dear daughter, please forgive me for not coming to you sooner," cried her mother. "The Kaveri was in flood and I couldn't cross any earlier. How worried I was! I am so relieved to see you looking well. Where is my grandchild?"

While her mother sobbed in relief, Ratnavati rushed to the kitchen where she had seen her mother's double go. But that mother was nowhere to be seen. Ratnavati looked at her mother in utmost wonder and went straight to the *puja* room to thank Shiva. Who else could it have been? Sevadinath Shiva had become a mortal mother for the sake of a girl who totally trusted him and had called out to him in complete faith. He had even brought the same food and medicine that Ratnavati's mother had prepared.

Ratnavati dissolved in floods of grateful tears when she realised how perfectly Mahadev, the Great God, the Vaidishwar or god of doctors himself, had looked after her and her baby. Throughout their lives, she and her mother would often break down thinking of it. "Did Sevadinath really do such-and-such?" they would say, overcome by his maternal compassion.

That Great God beyond time and space, that Adi Guru, that Mahayogi, that demon-killer, that Trikaldarshi who saw the past, present and future seamlessly was not remote to them. How could he be, when he had delivered Ratnavati's baby, plaited her hair, cooked her food and fed her with his own hand as her mother?

Ratnavati and her family held a big *puja* of thanksgiving and invited the whole town to a feast to celebrate this miracle. Everyone was deeply touched by Shiva's kindness.

"What does he not do for us? He drank poison to save the world. He even became the mother to this girl in her hour of need," they said, shedding tears of wonder. From that day, Shiva was given the name 'Thayumanavar', Tamil for 'the Lord who even became the mother'.

The people told their king, Mahendravarman the First, who built a temple to Shiva as Thayumanavar in Trichy. The Pandya kings made the temple even bigger later. The emperors of Vijayanagar and after them the Nayak kings of Madurai are said to have restored it in medieval times. Ratnavati's experience of *ishakripa* or God's grace has thus been enshrined forever in the land. I am told that they hold a festival there every year even today, re-enacting this *Shivlila*, and give medicinal oil as *prasadam* to new mothers. Not only do they remember Shiva's motherly mercy but teach everyone who cares to learn that a man has it in him to be as caring as a mother. Shiva, that most manly of gods, set an example for all men.

(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

BJP's response

Apropos of *BJP's actions amplify Rahul's prominence* (Mar 19). BJP's response to Rahul's comments was seriously miscalculated. After suffering a similar backlash for its actions against the BBC, it ought to have known better than to respond in a calculated way. The overzealous response has done it no good.
K Ruthvik Goud, Vizianagaram

Rahul's utterances

I suggest that Parliament pass a resolution admonishing Rahul Gandhi for his utterances in the UK and proceed with its business. This kind of stalemate in its functioning on account of objectionable views expressed by one of its members is unnecessary and disproportionate.
K Sundaram, email

Killers found

Apropos of *Killer couple in net after 8 years* (Mar 19). It is disappointing to see that justice was served after eight years. This incident highlights how law enforcement treats homicide cases and only probes it later on. There could have been a high chance of the culprits evading prosecution for a longer period. The case would have become cold and the family would not have found solace.
Sandra Joanne, Bengaluru

Murmu in Kerala

The president's visit to Kerala was very welcome and she would have been a lesson in humility for school kids. The higher the post one reaches, the more humble one should be, and President Droupadi Murmu has followed this to the tee.
Elizabeth Koshy, Pathanamthitta

Crackdown on Amritpal

Apropos of *Major crackdown on Khalistani leader Amritpal* (Mar 19). The deep-rooted anger over the 1984 Operation Blue Star and the desecration of the Golden Temple continues to resonate with some new-generation Sikhs. Bhindranwale is still viewed as a martyr by some in Punjab. Central and state governments should be vigilant in crushing anti-national elements.
P Victor Selvaraj, Palayamkottai

ICC's powers

The arrest warrant against Vladimir Putin is welcome. But it is very sad that the ICC is not empowered to arrest, extradite, prosecute and punish erring world leaders like Putin who are creating unrest in the world. Russia's unprovoked war against Ukraine is against the principles of harmony and peaceful coexistence. ICC should be given more powers.
V K Kumar, Thiruvananthapuram

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Mehbooba Mufti @MehboobaMufti
In J&K Intelligence agencies devote all their energies towards harassing Kashmiris by now criminalising even their livelihoods in the guise of 'security'.

Kapil Sibal @KapilSibal
Rijiju: A few retired judges are part of an "anti-India gang"; My response: A few politicians are part of "the know not what they say gang"

Basavaraj S Bommai @BSBommai
Our government is committed to the all-round development of all the Hindu communities of the state, equal to all is the mot to of our government.

Museums, culture dept offices face staff crunch

Employee strength less by 38% across country; 35% of Group A, including senior posts, lying vacant in most institutions

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

VARIOUS cultural organisations, including national-level museums and affiliated offices under the Ministry of Culture, have been functioning with at least 38 per cent less staff. This includes Group A and B officers. More than 35 per cent of Group A posts are vacant in majority of the institutions, according to the 'Demands for Grants (2023-24) of Ministry of Culture' report by the standing committee on transport, tourism and culture.

For instance, the total sanctioned strength of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is 9,262, but at least 3,449 posts are unfilled. The ASI has claimed that it has been taking various measures to fill the posts, including amendments to the recruitment rules.

According to officials, the ASI, which is responsible for preservation and conservation of more than 3,600 heritage sites and properties, has submitted requisitions for filling up posts through Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and Staff Selection Commission (SSC).

In the National Monument Authority (NMA), apart from vacant positions at different levels, five posts of Whole Time Members (WTMs) are yet to be filled. The NMA is entrusted with responsibility for the protection and preservation of monuments and sites. It is mandatory to seek an NOC from the NMA to carry out repair, construction or any development work in a 300 metre radius of a protected structure or site.

The standing committee has recommended that the ministry examine the impact of the high number of vacancies existing in all its organisations. The Parliamentary panel also asked the ministry to take urgent action to "ensure that adequate staff is recruited to enable these organizations to fulfil their mandate in letter and spirit".

In its report, the Committee has noted initiatives being taken by organisations to bridge the gap between sanctioned strength and vacancies. "The Committee takes special note of the fact that all five posts of Whole Time Members (WTMs) of NMA are vacant at present. It may be difficult for the NMA to work to its full potential without any in-position WTMs. The committee recommends that the appointment of the WTMs may be expedited so as to enable NMA to effectively work on the important functions under its purview. The Committee hopes that all concerned agencies including UPSC and SSC may ensure that the targeted recruitment schedule stays on track and the advertised vacancies get filled at the earliest," the panel observed.

The report also underlined that existing of vacancies was the main agenda of senior officials meeting, chaired by the secretary, culture and the progress is reviewed periodically. Instructions have been issued to take necessary actions so that all roadblocks in respect of filling up of vacant posts are cleared at the earliest, it also read. The ministry officials said that bureaucratic process delays the recruitment and appointment of nominated members in agencies.

STATE OF AFFAIRS IN CULTURAL MINISTRY

Name of the organisation	Sanctioned Strength (group A+B+C)	Vacancy
Archaeological Survey of India	9265	3449
National Archives of India	512	253
Anthropological Survey of India	398	162
Central Reference Library	63	22
National Museum	201	102
National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural (Lucknow)	52	39
National Gallery of Modern Art	139	88
Salarjung Museum	140	57
Allahabad Museum	82	44
National Museum Institute	19	3
Victoria Memorial Hall	175	105
Indian Museum	276	202
National Council of Science Museums	894	89

Vacant posts of group A, B, and C in prominent agencies under ministry of culture as per the report of the standing committee on transport, tourism and culture tabled in Lok Sabha last week

'Ensure adequate staff is recruited'

The Parliamentary panel has also asked the ministry to take urgent action to "ensure that adequate staff is recruited to enable these organizations to fulfill their mandate in letter and spirit".

POWER GAMES

SHAHID FARIDI
The writer is Resident Editor TNIE, New Delhi.
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State Elections

KHATTAR, CHAUHAN TO REMAIN BJP FACE IN HARYANA, MP

The BJP's central leadership has decided to fight the next round of elections in Madhya Pradesh and Haryana under the leadership of its sitting chief ministers Shivraj Singh Chauhan and Manohar Lal Khattar. There have been murmurs of dissent against the two leaders from party leaders of their respective states. This had led to speculations about change in leadership in the two states before the state assembly elections. Some names have also been floating around as their possible replacements. But sources said that the party leadership is in no mood to change the lead face, especially at this late stage when the preparations for the next elections have already begun. Elections in Madhya Pradesh are a few months away and there were reports that the party may send Union minister Jyotiraditya Scindia to counter the widely popular Kamal Nath of the Congress. But highly placed sources in the BJP ruled out the possibility of the party giving the reins to Scindia. Though it is no secret that Chauhan and Prime Minister Narendra Modi are not on best of terms, sources said that party has come to the conclusion that Mama, as Chauhan is popularly known in MP, is its best bet in the state. As regards Haryana, party general secretary in charge of the state, Biplab Deb, has met party MPs, MLAs, party candidates who lost the last assembly election, Mandal chiefs and other state office-bearers over dinner in the last few days at his 6, Talkatora Road residence. His clear and emphatic message to all these leaders has been to stop criticising chief minister Khattar and start highlighting the state government's achievements. A leader who attended one of these meetings said there is no doubt left that the party has decided to contest the next election in Haryana under the leadership of Khattar.

Indo-Nepal Ties

PORT ACCESS: COMMERCE MIN PROPOSAL IN MEA COURT

India and Nepal had signed the Indo-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship, 1950, which laid the foundation of special relations between the two countries and allowed the citizens of Nepal access and employment in India at par with the Indian citizens. The treaty also provides Nepal access to Indian ports to help the Himalayan nation sell its goods around the world. Nepal has been demanding changes in the treaty. One of its demands has been to allow it access to more ports. Nepali government representatives had met with the officials of the Indian ministry of commerce and industry and the top officials of Indian customs in this connection. Reference was made to the friendship treaty which reportedly promises Nepal "maximum" access to Indian ports. Sources said that the officials of the commerce ministry and the customs officials agreed to accept the Nepali demand and prepared a proposal to allow it access to about half a dozen private and government ports on both east and the west coasts. The proposal made by the commerce ministry is, however, pending clearance by the Ministry of External Affairs, according to sources. The two countries have had excellent relations for over seven decades and have maintained porous borders. There are, however, border issues, which both sides are trying to resolve amicably through established inter-governmental mechanisms and channels.

WHO deadline: ICMR to set up plans to reduce snakebite deaths by 50%

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

AS India contributes to nearly 50 per cent of the global snakebite deaths and is considered the snakebite capital of the world, a scientific task force is conducting a study that will provide evidence-based inputs to the government on developing national strategies to reduce and revise the national snakebite treatment.

The ICMR -National Institute for Research in Reproductive and Child Health (NIRRH) study findings will help India to meet the WHO deadline of 2030 to reduce death and disability from snakebite by 50 per cent. "The results of the ICMR task force study could be useful for upscaling to other Indian states, South Asia and other tropical countries," said Dr Rahul K. Gajbhiye, Scientist D and DBT Wellcome India Alliance, clinical and public health intermediate Fellow, Head Clinical Research Department ICMR-NIRRH. The findings will "provide critical regional inputs for the revision of the National Snakebite Treatment protocol," which is not followed due to a lack of awareness and training.

The two-year cross-sectional, study is being carried out in the Shahapur and Aheri blocks of Maharashtra and the Khordha and Kashipur blocks of Odisha. SBE leads to around 81,410 to 137,880 deaths, from 1.8 million to 2.7 million cases globally.

SBE affects about 400,000 people annually. The genesis of the snakebite project was Dr Gajbhiye's experience and learnings from Dahanu, Maharashtra, where the SBE fatality rate was as high as 4.5%. "SBE is labelled as a disease of poverty. Agricultural and migrant workers, tribes, hunters and often, the earning members of the family are the victims. So, SBE is not only a public health problem but also a major socio-economic determinant in India," he said.

The recent national mortality survey estimated that India had 1.2 million snakebite deaths (an average of 58,000 per year) from 2000 to 2019, an increase of about 8,000 cases per year compared to the earlier estimated survey (2001–2003). The main concern is that as SBE is not a notified disease, and cases are grossly underreported, as most of the deaths occur in rural areas. States like Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana share the burden of about 70 percent of snakebite deaths from 2001 to 2014.

From 2003 to 2015, a study estimated about 154,000 snakebite deaths in private and public hospitals. However, the government reported only 15,500 hospital deaths indicating that only about 10 percent of the expected deaths were recorded.

Thakur: Can amend rules to curb abusive content on OTT

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

AMID criticism of nudity and excessive violence streaming on over-the-top (OTT) platforms, Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur on Sunday said the government views the matter seriously and, if required, the ministry will consider amending the rules.

"Abusive language in the name of creativity will not be tolerated. The government is serious about the complaints about increasing abusive and obscene content on OTT platforms. If there is a need to make any changes in the rules regarding this, the ministry is willing to consider that. These platforms were given freedom for creativity, not obscenity" said Thakur.

The minister added that abuse and rudeness in the name of creativity couldn't be accepted at all. He was addressing a press conference in Nagpur. "Whatever necessary action needs to be taken on this, the Government will not back down on that ," Thakur said.

According to the information and broadcasting ministry, 57 OTT platforms are operational at present. Briefing about the complaint redressal mechanism, the minister said the process so far is that the producer has to resolve the received complaints at the first level. He said 90-92 per cent of the complaints are resolved by producers by making necessary changes.

The next level of complaint resolution is at the level of their association, where most of the complaints are resolved, he added.

"At the last level, it comes to the level of the government, where action is taken on the departmental committee level, according to the rules in place. But somewhere complaints have started increasing in the last few days and the department is taking it up very seriously. If there is a need to make a change we are willing to consider it," Thakur said. In January, Thakur had batted for creative autonomy and said adequate safeguards were in place to monitor content on OTT platforms.

"Creativity should not be reined in, it should have autonomy. But it should not be too much that anything can be shown. We have kept adequate provisions and till date they are working fine," Thakur had said on January 15 while participating in the 75th anniversary celebrations of 'Panchajanya' weekly, the RSS mouthpiece.

On Sunday, Thakur said there was a three-stage mechanism to deal with content on OTT platforms.

"As per the current procedure, producers have to address complaints about the content first and then they go to their association. When a complaint reaches the government (I&B department), strict action is taken as per rules," he said.

I&B Minister Anurag Thakur at a press conference in Nagpur on Sunday | PTI

Platforms given freedom for creativity, not obscenity

"If there is a need to make any changes in the rules regarding this, the ministry is willing to consider that. These platforms were given freedom for creativity, not obscenity," Anuraag Thalur said. The minister added that abuse and rudeness in the name of creativity couldn't be accepted at all. He said 90-92 per cent of the complaints are resolved by producers by making necessary changes. Creativity should not be reined in, it should have autonomy. But it should not be too much that anything can be shown.

Farmers stare at huge losses due to rain

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

RAINS, accompanied by hailstorms, over Northwest and East India on March 18 have wreaked havoc on rabi crops, especially ready-to-harvest wheat, gram and mustard crops. The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that similar situations would continue over Northwest, central, east and northeast India on March 20.

According to the IMD data, the rain registered in wheat-growing regions ranged from 137 per cent to 10,000 per cent above the normal on March 18. On March 17, the excess rainfall of the same region ranged from 540 per cent to 10,000 per cent. Moreover, the rainfall distributuion is erratic. For instance, on March 16, only Etawah district received 4,900 per cent rainfall above the normal. On March 17 in Eastern UP, seven out of 42 districts only received significant rain of 292 per cent above normal.

The extreme weather events would threaten India's food security as these regions are known for wheat production. According to the Directorate of Economics & Statistics, India's 85 per cent of wheat comes from only five states-- UP (32.42 per cent), MP (16.08 per cent), Punjab(15.65 per cent), Haryana (11.28 per cent) and Rajasthan (10.08 per cent). "The rain severely damaged wheat and gram crops in Rajasthan," says CP Gupta, Kota-based agriculture trader. "Due to lack of storage facilities, harvested crops which kept in fields got and submerged under this rain," he said.

"Our standing crop got lodged and harvested crop submerged as it laid on the fields," says Praveen Parmar, a farmer based in Sehore district of MP. "Our crops will face a quality issue when it reaches to mandis", added Parmar. MP-based Agri-commodity expert Sachin Kochar has also echoed the concern of farmers. "I feel rainfall may impact the quality of wheat crop if not quantity," said Kochar. Harvesting of wheat in Punjab and Haryana is yet to start. But excess rain has spoiled the mood of farmers and government agency. Punjab and Haryana yields are highest in the country – 5 tonnes/hectares (T/Ha), whereas all-India's average yield is around 3.4 T/Ha. It contributes to India's buffer stock.

UNSEASONAL RAINFALL

Region wise Rainfall	March 16	March 17	March 18
Punjab Sub Division	469%	918%	137%
Haryana Sub Division	-58%	540%	2666%
Western UP Sub Division	11%2076%	955%	
Eastern UP Sub Division	5421%	292%	1673%
West MP Sub Division	87%	3945%	10000%
East MP Sub Division	-22%	1165%	1033%
West Rajasthan Sub Division	1220%	584%	137%
East Rajasthan Sub Division	788%	10,000%	1090%

Source: IMD

FILE PHOTO

Amritpal's car found; 4 aides taken to Assam

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

WITH pro-Khalistani activist Amritpal Singh on the run, the Punjab Police registered two fresh cases again him and his aides, one for breaking barricades while he was fleeing on Saturday and the other on the recovery of a rifle from his abandoned car.

Also, 34 more people associated with him were arrested across Punjab on Sunday, taking the total number of such arrests so far to 112. For reasons that were not immediately clear, four of his close aides were taken to Dibrugarh Central Jail in Assam by a special flight.

Amritpal's cavalcade was intercepted while he was on his way to Muktsar Sahib to launch a *Khalsa Wahir* (religious procession) on Sunday.

The state government extended the suspension of mobile internet and SMS services till Monday noon to keep social media out of reach of mischief makers. Besides, security forces took out flag marches at several places led by senior officials in the state. Also, peace committee meetings were organised in all districts.

Sources said the authorities have detained Amritpal's alleged financer Daljeet Singh Kalsi in Gurugram. Kalsi is not just an actor and film producer, he is also said to be the self-styled preacher's advisor.

During the search operations, an abandoned ISUZU was found, which was Amritpal's getaway vehicle. A .315 bore rifle along with 57 live cartridges, a sword and a walkie-talkie set was recovered from car.

Amid claims in some sections that Amritpal is under illegal detention, the Punjab and Haryana HC issued notice to the government based on a habeas corpus petition.

Khalistanis bring down Tricolour at Indian High Commission in London

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

A few Khalistani supporters on Sunday brought down the Indian flag at the Indian High Commission in London, drawing a sharp reactions from the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi.

"The senior most diplomat present in British High Commission was summoned and this issue was raised," said the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson. An explanation was demanded for the complete absence of security that allowed Khalistani elements to enter the high commission premises. "The British diplomat was reminded that these were basic obligations of the UK government under the Vienna Convention. India finds it unacceptable the indifference of the UK Government to the security of the Indian diplomatic premises and personnel in the UK," the MEA spokesperson said.

New Delhi also expressed the hope that the UK government would take immediate steps to identify, arrest and prosecute each one of those involved in Sunday's incident and put in place stringent measures to prevent the recurrence of such incidents. The Indian flag was brought down after a Khalistani supporter climbed the wall and pulled down the flag amidst other supporters

TWITTER

shouting *'Khalistan zindabad'*.

"The police came and managed to control the crowd after this episode was over," sources, who witnessed the incident in London, said. During the past few months there have been increasing incidents of vandalism by pro-Khalistani supporters in countries, including Canada and Australia. Temples have been targeted across different parts of Australia and in Canada and have been vandalized. Pro-Khalistan graffiti also appeared. India has taken a serious view of such incidents. In the recently concluded visit of Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to India, PM Narendra Modi brought the instances of vandalism to his notice and was reassured that this would be controlled as Australia was not tolerant of hate.

TOURISTS STRANDED

The tourism sector in Sikkim was affected this week after many bookings were cancelled following heavy snowfall in the eastern and northern parts of the state that caused many visitors to get stranded, an official said.

4 YOUTHS DROWN IN POND IN RAJASTHAN'S CHURU

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	32	21	Mumbai	31	24
Bhopal	28	16	Panaji	29	22
Jaipur	26	15	Patna	26	18
Amritsar	26	14	Lucknow	28	19
Chennai	32	26	Port Blair	32	25
Kolkata	26	21	Imphal	25	13
Srinagar	15	10	Chandigarh	24	16

Cong steps in to thrash out differences in Raj unit

Gehlot, Pilot have been advised to put up a joint fight in elections

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

IN the election year, a new effort is now being made by senior Congress leaders to end the feud between the Gehlot faction and the Pilot group.

When asked about his rift with Sachin Pilot, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot stated: "While there are small differences within our party, this is common in all parties in every state. We will contest elections together, win and form the government." He emphasised that "there is no major issue of dispute within our party".

While talking to the media in Delhi on Saturday, Gehlot said that "we will all contest elections together, win, and then accept the decision of the high command about the chief minister's post. There is no difference within our party and we will fight the elections united and win."

Differences between Pilot and Gehlot have come to the fore many times in the past. During the election to the post of Congress President last year, both leaders had made strong statements against each other, with Gehlot even calling Pilot a traitor. Earlier, during pilot's revolt in 2020, Gehlot had called him 'Nikamma' and 'Nakaara.'

Many Congress leaders want an end to the long-standing resentment between Gehlot and Pilot to maintain the party's stronghold in Rajasthan. Senior leader Salman Khurshid advised both Gehlot and Pilot to resolve their differences and unite.

"If we can do this, then we will be saved, and the message will go to states where our party is weak that where our forts are strong, our party is also strong. If our forts remain strong in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, it will definitely have an impact on other states like UP as well," he said.

Former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir and Sachin Pilot's father-in-law Farooq Abdullah also appealed to Rajasthan Congress to stay united, stating that "the Gehlot government has done a good job, but all leaders must be taken along for the Congress to be strong".

Gehlot has informally started his campaign for assembly elections.

Despite this, Sachin Pilot has been staying silent for the last few weeks, leading to speculations about his next move. It remains to be seen whether he will accept the appeal of the high command and senior leaders to remain united before the Assembly elections or not.

Brahmin mahapanchayat demands larger share in Jaipur power circuit

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

AS elections are approaching in Rajasthan, various castes are demonstrating their strength. Following the Jats, who held Jat Mahkumbh and raised the demand of a Jat chief minister early this month in Jaipur, Brahmins, considered to be one of the largest population groups in the state, organised a Mahapanchayat in the state capital on Sunday. At this Mahapanchayat, demands were made to allocate 30-30 tickets from Congress and BJP to the Brahmin community, and to appoint a Brahmin chief minister.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw attended the programme and said that issuing a postal stamp on Lord Parshuram is a symbol of Brahmin unity. Vaishnaw, who is being seen as a dark horse for the Chief Ministerial post in case the BJP wins the next election in Rajasthan, also urged the community to maintain its unity and utilise the same for nation-building.

Rajya Sabha MP and BJP leader Ghanshyam Tiwari raised a big demand related to EWS reservation, stating that all the benefits available in other reservations should also be given in this category. Tiwari also emphasised that all temples and religious places of Sanatan Dharma should not be under government control.

Chittorgarh MP CP Joshi urged the Brahmin community to stand up against any religion that misbehaves with women.

At the end of the Brahmin Mahapanchayat, Congress leader Pushpendra Bhardwaj raised the demand of Brahmin chief minister.

In Rajasthan, Brahmins are mainly considered to be the vote bank of BJP. In view of the assembly elections to be held in December, BJP is trying to garner their votes, that is why most of the leaders who participated in Brahmin Mahapanchayat were from BJP.

Even non -Brahmin leaders of the party participated in the mahapanchayat.

THE CASTE FACTOR

- Brahmin community in Rajasthan is over **85-lakh** strong.
- More than **50** Assembly seats are decided by the upper caste vote bank
- Out of **200** MLAs in Rajasthan, **18** MLAs are Brahmins

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw at the event | PTI

PATNA DIARY

RAMASHANKAR
Our correspondent in Bihar
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Minister Tej Pratap rides bicycle to office

Bihar Forest and Environment Minister Tej Pratap Yadav is known for his unique ways. He rode a bicycle to reach his office in the secretariat recently. Pratap, sporting a green cap, waved to onlookers as press photographers ran with him to capture the moment. After he disembarked from his bicycle, he said that everybody should do cycling to keep themselves physically fit. He claimed that he saw late Samajwadi Party patron Mulayam Singh Yadav in his dreams and took inspiration. It is expected that people will draw some inspiration from Lalu Prasad's elder son and use bicycles often.

Ex-CM Manjhi praises Ravana, sparks row

Former Bihar chief minister Jitan Ram Manjhi is known for his independent views. Recently, he said that although Ram and Ravana are mythical characters, Ravana had more master over 'karma kand' (rituals) than Ram. His flow of ideas did not stop here as he reasoned that whenever Ram faced any problem, he had the support of supernatural powers but Ravana did not have the same privilege. Earlier too, he had spoken about the medical benefits of consuming liquor in small quantity even when CM Nitish Kumar is firm on keeping liquor ban without any laxity.

Youth power to be Bihar Diwas' theme this year

'Yuva Shakti, Bihar ki pragati' will be the theme of this year's Bihar Diwas, which will be held on March 22. Bihar has a glorious history of 111 years after its bifurcation from Bengal Presidency in 1912. Patna divisional commissioner Kumar Ravi and district magistrate Chandrashekhar Singh took stock of preparations for the three-day grand celebration at historic Gandhi Maidan in Patna. Singers like Javed Ali, Maithili Thakur and Dipali Sahay will regale the audience. Ghazal by Talat Aziz and qawwali by Niyaz brothers will be presented on the occasion.

CHHATTISGARH

Aadhaar-based system to aid purchase of cars

EJAZ KAISER @Raipur

TO buy or sell a second-hand vehicle, one doesn't need to undertake recurring visits to any office of the Regional Transport Officer (RTO) now, but just follow a simplified process by getting the Aadhar authentication done in any transport service centre across the Chhattisgarh state.

The state transport department, which carried out people-friendly innovations during the Covid-19 pandemic through advanced centralised system and facilitated contactless procedure, has launched a new procedure that will alleviate the buyers of second-hand vehicles from the hassles of visiting the RTO office.

"With the new system based on Aadhar authentication introduced, those buying or selling second hand vehicles can now easily accomplish the transfer of ownership at their nearest transport service centre. The initiative will further get rid of brokers. Vehicle owners don't have to make multiple visits," said Dipanshu Kabra, transport commissioner.

Shah: Co-operatives on organic farming will raise farmers' income

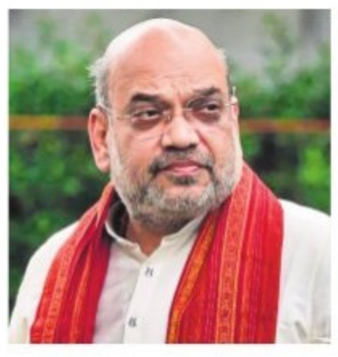
DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @Ahmedabad

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah said on Sunday that the national-level cooperative societies, recently approved by the Union Cabinet for the promotion of organic products and exports, will help improve farmers' income significantly in 10 years.

Shah also pushed farmers to switch to natural farming, saying doing so would enhance their income and safeguard the environment from the harm that chemical fertilizers inflict on the land.

The minister inaugurated the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) 'Kisan Bhavan' in Junagadh and laid the foundation stone for the Junagadh District Bank Headquarters.

In his address, Shah said the work begun by (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi will not only double but many times increase the income of every farmer in the next 10 years. He stated that Prime Minister Modi has made an important cabinet decision



to establish three multi-state cooperative societies, two of which are extremely beneficial to the state's farmers.

"Another cooperative group will assist the farmers in exporting their goods from any hamlet in the nation and act as an export house, transferring the profits right into the bank accounts of the farmers. I will meet with the heads of Gujarat's district cooperative banks and APMCs to arrange their registration with cooperative societies," Shah said.

Shah also cautioned farmers not to use chemical urea. It has ruined farmland.

LAND DISPUTE

Visva Bharati issues notice to Amartya Sen

PRONAB MONDAL @ Kolkata

VISVA Bharati University authorities on Sunday served a notice to Nobel laureate Amartya Sen asking him or any of his representatives to be present at the central varsity's Santiniketan office on March 29 with all documents related to his land where Sen's ancestral home is located.

Sen has been asked to give valid reasons to why the varsity authorities should not evict him from the 13 decimal of the 1.38 acre leased out to his father Asutosh Sen that he is in his illegal possession now.

Earlier, the university authorities sent a letter to Sen for a suitable date and time for a joint survey of the plot of his ancestral residence. The varsity has accused the economist of "unauthorised occupation" of part of the plot.

However, the survey could not be conducted as there was no response from Sen. On January 30, Mamata met Sen and handed over land-related documents to him corroborating his claim that he was rightful lessee of 1.38 acre of land.

BJP & Cong in battle for women votes, offer sops in election-bound MP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

IN the battle for the crucial 48 per cent women vote in the year-end Assembly polls in Madhya Pradesh, the Opposition Congress has countered BJP government's ambitious ₹1,000 monthly support for financially weak women Laadli Behna Scheme with twin promises.

"The BJP government says it will give ₹1,000 monthly, but once our government is back in the state, ₹1,500 will be given monthly to women in the state. And that's not all as we'll also give cooking gas LPG cylinders for just ₹500 each," former chief minister and state Congress president Kamal Nath announced at a public rally in Narsinghpur district on Sunday. Nath is on the tour to Narsinghpur district and the adjoining Chhindwara district.

Nath wondered how just ₹1,000 monthly support will help women amid rising prices. "Not just that but several conditions have been imposed in the ₹1,000 monthly scheme of Shivraj Singh Chouhan...."

Another former chief minister and Congress MP Digvijaya Singh in his native Guna district too made light of the recently launched scheme. "It's the same government which is even taking away refrigerators and television sets of Laadli Behnas on failure to pay the electricity bills. Just wait and watch, the BJP will also get houses of Laadli Behnas confiscated in future," Singh said.

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on March 5 launched ₹1,000 monthly support Laadli Bahana Scheme for married, widow, divorced and abandoned women aged between 23 years and 60 years.

Cong counters BJP, promises ₹1.5k per month

Opposition Congress has countered BJP government's ambitious ₹1,000 monthly support for financially weak women Laadli Behna Scheme with twin promises. It also promised cooking gas LPG cylinders for just ₹500 each, stating that BJP's ₹1k wouldn't suffice for women.

Tiger spotted in Palamu Reserve after 3 yrs

MUKESH RANJAN @Ranchi

IN a major relief to Jharkhand forest department, a tiger was sighted directly by its officials in Palamu Tiger Reserve (PTR) after at least three years. Notably, according to the report on Status of Tigers in India, released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019, there were no tigers in PTR.

Earlier, the sighting of a tiger was reported in November 2021 in the Baresand area, but it could not be captured, either on camera or by a personal camera phone.

The Palamu Tiger Reserve, which is spread in an area of about 1,230 sq km, was made a tiger reserve in 1973 and had a good number of the animal, which came down to three in 2014 census and zero in the latest report.

Elated with the sighting of wild cat, PTR Director Kumar Ashutosh informed that as many as 40 trap cameras have been installed and more than 30 trackers have been deployed to keep a close eye on it. Deputy Director Brajesh Jena himself has been camping in Kutku Range of PTR to protect it from villagers and poachers.

"It was sighted for the first time on Friday by one of our staffs and I visited the place today and took photographs and video footage of the tiger. It is a healthy male tiger, which is about 8-9 years of age, and has also been killing and feeding on the cattle in the last two days," said the PTR Director. They have been convincing the villagers to keep away from it and ensuring that they will be compensated as per the norms in case the tiger kills their cattle, he added.

The male tiger was spotted on Friday for the first time after three years | EXPRESS

According to the PTR Director, the tiger has migrated from the bordering areas of Chhattisgarh, which has less forest cover as compared to the PTR in Jharkhand.

Moreover, the region also has less number of villages than the other side of the state borders which makes it suitable for the wild animals, he said.

"Kutku Range has been a tiger corridor between Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh since ages, but the presence of the animal was missing for the past few years. Now, tigers are returning back to the track which is really a good sign," said the PTR Director.

It appears that the corridor between Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh has been revived once again due to the changed circumstances on both sides of the border and tigers are finding abode in PTR, he added.

> It was sighted for the first time on Friday by one of our staff members and I visited the place on Sunday to take photographs and video footage of the tiger. It is a healthy male tiger, which is about 8-9 years of age, and has also been killing and feeding on cattle in the last two days
>
> Kumar Ashutosh, PTR Director

According to the PTR Director, the images and evidence of the tiger will be sent to National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for its inclusion in the Tiger Census report, which is expected to be released in July this year.

Notably, according to 2006 census there were 10 tigers in Jharkhand in 2010, which came down to three in 2014 and the latest report brings the total number of the big vats to five. Beginning with 22 tigers in 1972, the PTR saw its heydays in 1995 when it had 71 big cats.

But then the fall began and only three tigers remained in 2014.

However, the report on Status of Tigers in India released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi 2019, suggested that there were no tigers in PTR.

Resolution of conflict between Sikhs in Shillong, state govt likely by April

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

THE long-drawn conflict between Meghalaya government and Sikh community in Shillong might get resolved by next month. The Conrad K Sangma government said it would go ahead with the proposed relocation of 342 families from Harijan Colony (also known as Punjabi Lane) to the premises of Shillong Municipal Board.

Two days ago, the High Court of Meghalaya issued an order asking both sides to resolve the matter by April so that relocation, if any, could take place within the next two to three months.

Last year, the government had prepared a relocation blueprint and shared it with the Harijan Panchayat Committee (HPC). However, the HPC said it would first consult engineers and architects to understand the blueprint in detail. It has not responded yet.

Deputy Chief Minister Prestone Tynsong, who heads the government-constituted high-level committee on relocation, said the government would go ahead with relocation. "The government had invited them (HPC) in November last year for the resumption of talks but they sought time. We wrote to them again. Let us see if they respond," Tynsong said. The government gave time till April 10 to the HPC to respond to the relocation blueprint. The court will hear the case on April 24.

The government wants to redevelop Harijan Colony, a prime location in the hill station, but the residents are not willing to part with their land. They claim that their forefathers migrated to the place more than 200 years ago.

Gurjit Singh, who is the HPC secretary, had said last year the Sikhs of Shillong were emotionally attached to the colony where their forefathers lived and died and never thought of turning to Punjab due to the love of people.

The government took possession of the land, measuring 12,444.13 square metres, two years ago after paying a premium of over ₹2 crore to the Syiem (king) of Mylliem, the original owner.

Govt aims to develop Harijan Colony

The government wants to redevelop Harijan Colony, a prime location, but the residents are not willing to part with their land. They claim that their forefathers migrated to the place over 200 years ago. Gurjit Singh, HPC secretary, had said the Sikhs of Shillong were emotionally attached to the colony where their forefathers lived and died.

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • SW: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	23	3	TDS	Los Angeles	14	6	LC
Colombo	31	24	LC	Melbourne	24	14	HR
Dhaka	34	22	TDS	Moscow	-1	-7	HR
Dubai	29	18	SNY	New York	12	2	LC
Houston	28	21	SNY	Singapore	29	24	TDS
Istanbul	12	8	LC	Toronto	2	-3	LC
London	9	2	LC	Washington	14	6	LC

Pak govt weighs outlawing Imran's party over attack on security forces

Terrorism case registered against him, other PTI leaders over vandalism, unrest outside court

ISLAMABAD

PAKISTAN Interior Minister Rana Sanuallah said the government is planing to consult experts on initiating a process to declare Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party a 'proscribed' outfit after police claimed to have seized weapons and petrol bombs from the former premier's residence in Lahore.

Leaders of the ruling alliance lashed out at Imran who travelled from Lahore to Islamabad on Saturday to mark his presence at a district court here, amidst mayhem and chaos, as his supporters clashed with police.

While Imran was in Islamabad, over 10,000 armed Punjab police personnel launched a major operation at his Zaman Park residence in Lahore and arrested dozens of his supporters and claimed to have seized weapons and petrol bombs.

Interior Minister Sanuallah said at a press conference on Saturday that the government would consult its legal team to assess whether a process could be initiated to declare the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party a proscribed group, *Dawn* newspaper reported.

"Terrorists were hiding in Zaman Park. Weapons, petrol bombs, etc have been recovered from the residence of Imran Imran which is enough evidence to file a case against the PTI for being a militant organisation," Sanaullah said.

Supporters of Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan, shout slogans during a protest in Karachi on Sunday | AFP

On the government's plan to initiate the process to ban Imran's party, the minister said: "Primarily it is a judicial process to declare any party proscribed. However, we will consult our legal team on the issue." Separately, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif appeared to agree with the assertion by his niece PMN-L Senior Vice President Maryam Nawaz that Imran's party is a "militant organisation". "If anyone had any doubt, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chairman Imran Niazi's antics of the last few days laid bare his fascist and militant tendencies," he said in a tweet.

Maryam said Imran was afraid of going to jail.

Meanwhile, Pakistani police on Sunday registered a terrorism case against Imran and over a dozen PTI leaders for indulging in vandalism, attacking security personnel and creating unrest outside the judicial complex. Clashes erupted outside the Islamabad Judicial Complex on Saturday when Khan arrived in Islamabad from Lahore to attend a much-awaited hearing in the Toshakhana case.

During the confrontation between PTI workers and police, over 25 security personnel were injured, prompting Additional District and Sessions Judge Zafar Iqbal to defer the court hearing till March 30.

The case was registered against arrested PTI workers and wanted party leaders. About 17 PTI leaders were named in the FIR lodged by the Islamabad Police, *Geo News* reported. The FIR states that the workers damaged the police check post and the main gate of the judicial complex, it said.

As many as 18 people were arrested for arson, pelting stones and breaking the judicial complex's building, said the FIR. "About two police vehicles and seven motorcycles were burned, and the official vehicle of the station house officer was damaged," it added. *PTI*

OUTREACH

Assad visits UAE in rare trip to Sunni Arab country

ABU DHABI

SYRIAN President Bashar al-Assad met Sunday with Emirati leaders in Abu Dhabi, his second Gulf visit since last month's earthquake in his country prompted renewed efforts to bring Damascus back into the Arab fold.

The trip — Assad's second to the oil-rich United Arab Emirates in as many years — comes after a visit to Oman last month, his only official engagements in Arab countries since the start of Syria's war in 2011.

The UAE's president, Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, greeted Assad and his wife Asma in the capital, the official news agency WAM said, before high-level meetings at the presidential palace. "We held constructive talks aimed at developing relations between our two countries," the Emirati president said in a statement. "Our discussions also explored ways of enhancing cooperation to accelerate stability and progress in Syria and the region," Sheikh Mohamed added.

Abu Dhabi, which normalised relations with Assad's internationally isolated government in 2018, has led aid efforts in the aftermath of the February 6 earthquake that struck southeastern Turkey and northern Syria, killing tens of thousands. Analysts say the diplomatic momentum generated in the quake's aftermath could bolster Damascus's relations with West Asian countries that have so far resisted normalisation after more than a decade of war. *AFP*

Russia signals no end to forced transfer of Ukrainian children

KYIV

DAYS after the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant against Russian President Vladimir Putin over war crimes including the forced deportation of children from Ukraine to Russian territories, pro-Moscow officials in occupied parts of Ukraine signaled more deportation are on the way. Across southern Ukraine, pro-Russian leaders are issuing new 'evacuation orders', a euphemism for forced deportations, sources told *The New York Times*.

"Russians are deporting more and more people from occupied territories," Ukrainian National Resistance Centre told *The New York Times*.The NYT reported that instead of disguising the deportations, Russian authorities have put the children on display in Red Square and at various events celebrating the war.

Meanwhile, Putin made a surprise trip to Mariupol, the Kremlin said Sunday, his first visit to territory captured from Ukraine since the start of Moscow's invasion. Just hours after Putin visited Crimea to mark the ninth anniversary of the peninsula's annexation, video distributed by the Kremlin showed him landing by helicopter in Mariupol, the port city that Moscow captured after a long siege last spring. The visit triggered an angry reaction from Ukraine, with a presidential aide blasting its "cynicism" and "lack of remorse".

Russian President Vladimir Putin speaking with Russians in Mariupol | AP

The Russian leader took a tour of the city and was seen driving a car. The Kremlin said he visited a rebuilt musical theatre and followed the presentation of a report on reconstruction work. "We're praying for you," a resident told Putin, referring to the city as "a little piece of paradise", according to images broadcast by Russian state TV, showing the visit took place at night.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters the visit was "spontaneous", adding that Putin's movements around the city and his meeting with locals were not planned.

He added that the visit took place "very late" on Saturday and in the early hours of Sunday. It was Putin's first trip to the eastern Donbas region since he launched the invasion in February 2022, and comes almost a year after Moscow announced the capture of Mariupol. *Agencies*

19 dead as bus falls into ditch in Bangladesh

DHAKA

At least 19 people were killed and 30 others injured on Sunday when a speeding bus crashed into a ditch in Bangladesh, officials said.

The Dhaka-bound bus operated by Emad Paribahan veered out of control on the Bangabandhu Expressway at 7.45 am in Madaripur's Shibchar, Police Superintendent Md Masud Alam said. The bodies of 14 people have been recovered from the spot, according to Madaripur Deputy Commissioner Rahima Khatun. She said that three others died on their way to hospitals.

The injured, many in critical condition, were shifted to Shibchar Upazila Health Complex and Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment, she said.The on-duty doctor at the DMCH declared two more dead. Many of the victims were from Madaripur as the bus from Khulna took passengers aboard in Madaripur.

"It is believed that the bus went out of control after one of its tyres was punctured.," said Shiplu Ahmed, deputy assistant director of the Fire Service and Civil Defence. *PTI*

As no-confidence vote looms, Macron defiant

PARIS

FRANCE faced another day of protests Sunday against a bitterly contested pension reform rammed through by President Emmanuel Macron's government, a day before crucial no-confidence vote.

After weeks of peaceful strikes and marches against raising the official retirement age from 62 to 64, police on Saturday closed the Place de la Concorde opposite parliament for demonstrations following two successive nights of clashes. Some individual lawmakers were targeted, with Eric Ciotti — chief of the conservative Republicans party expected not to back the no-confidence motions — finding early Sunday that his constituency office had been pelted with rocks overnight.

"The killers who did this want to put pressure on my vote on Monday," Ciotti wrote on Twitter, posting pictures showing smashed windows and threatening graffiti.

More than 80 people were arrested at a 4,000-strong Paris demonstration Saturday where some set rubbish bins on fire, destroyed bus stops and erected improvised barricades.

And 15 more were held in Lyon after police said "groups of violent individuals" triggered clashes. Other demonstrations in cities around France passed off peacefully, with hundreds turning out in the Mediterranean port city Marseille. "What do we have left apart from continuing to demonstrate?" said Romain Morizot, a 33-year-old telecoms engineer, at the Marseille protest. After the government used a constitutional provision to bypass a parliamentary vote on pension reform, "now that will stoke social tensions everywhere," Morizot added.

"We'll keep going, we don't have a choice". Away from the streets of major cities, the hard-left CGT union said Saturday that workers would shut down France's largest oil refinery in Normandy, warning that two more could follow on Monday. *PTI*

ASIA MATTERS

Muda left out of coalition parties' meet

The Malaysian United Democratic Alliance (Muda) was again not invited to the Unity Government Secretariat meeting in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday, the Star reported. The unity government has the support of 81 Pakatan MPs, 30 from Barisan Nasional, 23 from Gabungan Parti Sarawak, six from Gabungan Rakyat Sabah, three from Warisan, two independent MPs and one each from Parti KDM, Muda, and PBM. Muda was not invited to the first Unity Government secretariat meeting held on Feb 7. "Regardless, we will focus on preparations for the elections," Muda general secretary Amir Hadi said

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my clients Mr. Ashok Kumar Shroff and Mrs. Renu Shroff are proposing to purchase the Property bearing No. 39, situated at 5th Main Road, P&T Layout, II Stage, Geddalahalli Village, Sanjayanagar, Bangalore – 560 094; presently bearing Municipal Nos. 39 and 39/1, PID Nos. 100-732-39 and 100-732-39/1, Old Ward No. 100, New BBMP Ward No. 19, Bangalore; along with a residential building comprising of Ground and First Floors; measuring East to West: 40 feet and North to South: 50 feet, totally 2000 sq.ft.; and bounded on the East by: Road, West by: Site No. 38, North by: Site No. 28 and South by: Road, from its present owners Smt. Arpana R. Vaidya and Mr. Dinesh G. Thakkar. If anybody having any objection for the same or any person /bank /financial institution having any claim /charge on the said property, are requested to contact the undersigned on the below mentioned address within 7 days of the publication of this notice. Any claim made thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SOMASHEKHARA A.N., Advocate
No. 21/1, Girls School Street, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru – 560 020.
M: 9901073881

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Smt. Rekha Jaiprakash M.L., W/o Late Jaiprakash M.L. is desirous to purchase the schedule property mentioned here below from Mr.Somasundar, S/o Muniyappa, and Mr. K. Manjunath S/o Krishnappa who are the owner of the schedule property.Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s other than the owners. Asserting any right/title/ charge/lien/claims and any interest whatsoever in respect of the schedule property are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned.The said claims/objections must be in writing together with documentary proof of such claims and objections so has to reach us to address given below within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no such claim/objections are received it shall be deemed that no one else otherthan the owner of the schedule property has/have any right/title/interest or claim whatsoever in respect of schedule property and my client would be at liberty to proceed with the said transactions in connection with the schedule property.

Property Schedule

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Sy. No.9/1, 9/2B, 9/2C total extent of 0-04 Guntas, Situated at Kogilu Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore District bounded by:
Item No.1 Sy. No.9/2B. East: Road, **West:**Remaining portion of Sy. No.9/2B. **North:** Somasudar's Property.**South** :New Kogile Main Road.**Item No.2 Sy. No.9/2c. East:** Road,**West :** Remaining portion of Sy. No.9/2c.**North:** Somasundar's Property, **South:**Somasundar's Property, **Item No.3 Sy. No.9/1 East** :Road, **West** :Remaining portion of Sy. No.9/1.**North :** Passage Road, **South** :Somasundar's Property. **Item No.4 Sy. No.9/1. East:** Road, **West:**Remaining portion of Sy. No.9/1. **North:** Somasundar's Property.**South:**K.Manjunath's Property In total area Approximately Measuring East to West 40-0 Feet, North to South 120 Feet, in all total measuring 4800 Sq.Ft.

JAYADEV., M.A., L.L.B. ADVOCATE
Sri Siganduru Chowdeshwar Enterprises, Shop, Site No.1591, Behind Mini Vidhana Soudha, Sugappa EAVORE Ishanka, Bangalore - 560 064.
Mob:9886606045/9482712683

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice to the General Public

My clients Mr. Prasanna Kumar. J, S/o. R.S Jayapal, aged about 46 years, R/at. No. 69/28, 1st Main, 10th Cross, Bharathi Layout, S.G. Palya, Bangalore 560029. is intending to purchase the Schedule property from its owner Sri. Madhesh.R, S/o. Sri. Rangaswamy, aged about 44 years, R/at. No.8, Sri Sai Nivas, 4th Cross, Near BSV Reddy Layout, Obalappa Layout, R.M.Nagar, Bangalore 560016, for Valuable Consideration. Any persons having any rights/ claims/ objections/ Minor Claims, in respect of the schedule property are hereby requested to send their objections to the above mentioned address within 7 days, from the receipt of the this public notice. If no objections are forth coming within 7 days, my client shall get executed sale deed in her favour.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No. 83, House list KhataNo. 235/11, formed out of Property No. 405/p4, (old Property No. 405), Situated at, Kalkere Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Now Comes under the limits of BBMP, Bangalore, measuring East to West 30 feet, North to South 40 feet, in all totally measuring 1200 Sq feet, and bounded on **East:** Site No. 82, **West:** Site No. 84, **North:** Road, **South:** Site No. 76.

From, **Mr. Manjunath Reddy,**
Smt. T. Shobha Reddy,
No. 8/7, Mega City BEML Layout Road, Maragondanahalli Main Road, K.R. Puram Post, Bangalore-36. Ph:- 9845520830, 7353233778, 9481487169

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

No.: CEE/TZ./EE(C)-2/AEE(C)-2/2022-23/25873 Date: 18.03.2023

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites tenders through e-procurement mode only for the work of **Construction of periphery compound wall at 66/11kV substation BEML, KGF, Malur, TL & SS Division, Kolar.** Estimate cost: **Rs. 62,00,000/- (Inclusive of all taxes).** Period for completion of work: **6 months.**

Further details of the tender can be obtained from website: **www.kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink **"e-Procurement"** on or after **21.03.2023.**

Sd/- Chief Engineer, Electy., Transmission Zone, KPTCL, Ananda Rao Circle, Bengaluru - 560 009.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that **Smt.SHARADAMMA uruf GOWRAMMA** Aged about 62 Years, Wife of Late Krishnamurthy Uruf Arasaiah, Presently residing at No.12/6, 13th Cross, Bhuvaneshwarinagar, Kempapur Agrahara, Bengaluru – 560 023 has lost/misplaced the below referred Original Partition Deed dated 17.10.2011, registered as **Document No.1996/2011-12 of Book-I,** in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Sriramapura, Bangalore, pertaining to the Immovable Property bearing Old Site No.7, now bearing **New Municipal No.12/4, PID No.31-47-12/4,** situated at 13th Cross, Bhuvaneshwarinagar, Kempapura Agrahara, Bengaluru – 560 023, measuring East to West: 25 feet and North to South: 12.06 feet (apart from 5 feet wide common passage), and a police complaint is filed before Bengaluru City Police Unit and a Lost Report bearing No.0502346/2023, dated 15.03.2023 has been obtained to that effect.

Finder may return the Partition Deed dated 17.10.2011, registered as Document No.1996/2011-12 of Book-I, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Sriramapura, Bangalore, pertaining to the aforesaid site to the undersigned.

If any person/institution has any claim or interest of any nature pertaining to aforesaid property and Will, the said claims along-with supporting documents shall be filed with undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this Notice at the address mentioned below. Any claims raised thereafter shall not be entertained or binding.

P. MANJUNATH, Advocate
HM LEGAL, Office at No.24/10, First Floor, Haudin Road, Ulsoor, Bengaluru – 560 042, Phone No: 080 – 48145789

IN THE COURT OF THE 11th ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-8)

P & SC. No. 864 / 2022

BETWEEN: 1. SHARDENDU MALPANI, S/o. Late Arun Kumar Malpani, Aged about 46 years, R/a. Malpani Bhavan, No.23, Race Course Road, Madhava Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 001. **2. DIVYA LADHA**, D/o. Late Arun Kumar Malpani, Aged about 48 years, R/a. Plot No. 48-B, Khare Town, Dharampeth, Shankar Nagar, **NAGPUR- 440010.**
Rep by her GPA Holder Shardendu Malpani (the Petitioner No.1 herein) **...PETITIONERS**
AND: NIL. ...RESPONDENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the petitioners above named has filed Petition under Section 372 of Indian Succession Act, 1925 for grant of Succession Certificate relating to Schedule Assets to sell and/or negotiate and/or deal with the same in proportion detailed in the WILL dated 12.12.2018 without any impediment as well as any other movable or intangible properties held in the name of Late Priti Malpani, mother of the Petitioners, who expired on 17.07.2019 and such other reliefs as this Hon'ble Court deems fit under the facts and circumstances of the case, in the interest of justice and equity.

Interested parties are hereby warned to appear in this Court in person or by a pleader duly instructed **on the 12th day of April 2023 at 11:00 a.m.** in forenoon to show cause against the petitioners, failing wherein the matter will be heard and determined ex-parte.

SCHEDULE ASSETS

A. ASSETS BEQUEATED TO PETITIONER No. 1

I. SHARES HELD IN JOINT FAMILY BUSINESS

Sl.No.	Asset Description
1.	43,000 shares held in Raichur Solvents Limited vide Reg. folio No.16 (II) and 49.
2.	32,950 shares held in Mycon Construction Limited vide Reg. folio No. 2.
3.	1000 shares held in Sangam Motels Private Limited vide Reg. folio No.10, 12, 13, 21 40 and 41.
4.	25,500 shares held in Sangam Solvent Extracts Limited vide Reg. folio No.44.
5.	16,700 shares held in Catalyst Securities Limited vide Reg. folio No.1.
6.	33,300 shares held in Catalyst Financial Services Private Limited vide Reg. folio No.9.

II. SHARES HELD IN COMPANIES:

Sl.No.	Depository Particlpant & Client DP No.	Asset Description
1.	Stock Holding Corporation. D.P. ID - IN301135 Client ID - 13927374	17 shares in MOIL Limited vide Client ISIN No. INE490G01020 held jointly with Arun Kumar Malpani.
2.		42 shares in Tata Steel vide Client ISIN No. IN9081A01010 held jointly with Arun Kumar Malpani.
3.		67 shares in Tata Steel vide Client ISIN No. INE081A01012 held jointly with Arun Kumar Malpani.

III. Jewelleries in one packed box by Late. Priti Malpani.
IV. Any other Investments / Shares held in the name of Late Priti Malpani.

B. ASSETS BEQUEATED TO PETITIONER No. 2

V. BANK ACCOUNTS / FIXED DEPOSITS

Sl.No.	Asset Description
1.	Account held in A/c No.656001042625 of ICICI Bank, Chickpet Branch for a sum of Rs.4,99,725/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Ninety Nine Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Five) held jointly with Arun Malpani.

VI. Any mutual Funds standing in the name of Late. Priti Malpani.
VII. All Ivory Showpieces in possession of Late Priti Malpani.
VIII. All the jewelleries except for the jewelleries packed in one box.
IX. Any other Fixed Deposit / Bank Accounts held in the name of Late Priti Malpani.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on 6th day of March 2023.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT,
Sd/-
Assistant Registrar,
City Civil Court, Bangalore.

Sd/- **ARUN GOVINDRAJ,** Advocate
#2, Ground Floor, Belview Apartments, No.7, Haudin Road, Bangalore - 560 042.

Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
TTMC, 'A' Block, 5th Floor, BMTC Building, K. H. Road, Shantinagar, Bengaluru – 560027. Tel.: 080-22278813 / 14 / 15 / 16, Fax : 080-22213172
E-mail: enquiries.ksmcl@gmail.com, Website: www.ksmc.karnataka.gov.in

No.KSMCL/KP/EOI/2022-23/3497 Date: 20.03.2023

Notice Inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) from experienced Consulting Organisations for Selection of Knowledge Partner

Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited (KSMCL), a Government of Karnataka Undertaking registered under Company Act, is a dynamic player in the mining field involved in development of mineral resources including exploration, exploitation, beneficiation and marketing of various minerals / ornamental stones in Karnataka.

In order to improve its Mining / Quarrying activities and enhancing the efficiency level of operation, KSMCL intends to engage the services of a reputed Consulting Organisation as Knowledge Partner for a period of two years extendable for two more years on mutual consent.

Interested organisations having experience in handling Knowledge Partner Services are requested to visit the website of KSMCL for obtaining more details on Broad Scope of work, selection process and other terms and conditions.

The last date for submission of EOI at the office of KSMCL is **31.03.2023 at 5:00 p.m.** KSMCL reserves the right to take appropriate decisions in the matter, without assigning any reasons, whatsoever. For more details visit the website of **KSMCL: www.ksmc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
General Manager (Admn. & Vigilance)
KSMCL, Bangalore

DIPR/CP/RO5366/AAPL/2022-23

IN THE COURT OF THE 11th ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-8)

P & SC. No. 865 / 2022

BETWEEN: 1. SHARDENDU MALPANI, S/o. Late Arun Kumar Malpani, Aged about 46 years, R/a. Malpani Bhavan, No.23, Race Course Road, Madhava Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 001. **2. DIVYA LADHA**, D/o. Late Arun Kumar Malpani, Aged about 48 years, R/a. Plot No. 48-B, Khare Town, Dharampeth, Shankar Nagar, **NAGPUR- 440010.**
Rep by her GPA Holder Shardendu Malpani (the Petitioner No.1 herein) **...PETITIONERS**
AND: NIL. **...RESPONDENT**

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the petitioners above named has filed Petition under Section 372 of Indian Succession Act, 1925 for grant of Succession Certificate relating to schedule assets to sell and/or negotiate and/or deal with the same in proportion detailed in the WILL dated 24.07.2019 without any impediment as well as any other movable or intangible properties held in the name of Late Arun Kumar Malpani, father of the Petitioners who expired on 29.06.2020 and such other reliefs as this Hon'ble Court deems fit under the facts and circumstances of the case, in the interest of justice and equity.

Interested parties are hereby warned to appear in this Court in person or by a pleader duly instructed **on the 12th day of April 2023 at 11:00 a.m.** in forenoon to show cause against the petitioners, failing wherein the matter will be heard and determined ex-parte.

SCHEDULE ASSETS

A. ASSETS BEQUEATED TO PETITIONER No. 1

I. BANK ACCOUNTS/FIXED DEPOSITS

Sl.No.	Asset Description
1.	Account held in A/c No.656001022136 of ICICI Bank, Chickpet Branch, Bangalore for a sum of Rs.12,56,186/- (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand One Hundred and Eighty Six only) held jointly with Priti Malpani.
2.	Account held in A/c No.000004110232 of Barclays Bank, Nelamangala Branch for a sum of Rs.54,02,173/- (Rupees Fifty Four Lakhs Two Thousand One Hundred and Seventy Three Only).
3.	Account held in A/c No.04220120027784 of Kotak Mahindra Bank, Lavelle Road Branch, Bangalore for a sum of Rs.3,133/- (Rupees Three Thousand One Hundred and Thirty Three Only).
4.	Account held in A/c No.1161400316 of Central Bank of India, J C Road Branch, Bangalore for a sum of Rs.7,932/- (Rupees Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Two only).
5.	Account held in A/c No.0788101008363 of Canara Bank, Madhavnagar Branch, Bangalore for a sum of Rs.22,556/- (Rupees Twenty Two Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Six only).

II. SHARES HELD IN JOINT FAMILY BUSINESS

Sl.No.	Asset Description
1.	31,700 shares held in Raichur Solvents Limited vide Reg. folio No.16 (II), 21 (II), 41, 46, 64 (II) and 73.
2.	57,050 shares held in Mycon Construction Limited vide Reg. folio No. 02 and 20,
3.	220 shares held in Sangam Motels Private Limited vide Reg. folio No.10, 12 and 23.
4.	67,500 shares held in Sangam Solvent Extracts Limited vide Reg. folio No.1 (II), 8, 30, 36, 38, 39, 48 & 49.
5.	10 shares held in Catalyst Securities Limited vide Reg. folio No.01.
6.	100 shares held in Catalyst Financial Services Private Limited vide Reg. folio No.01.

III. SHARES HELD IN COMPANIES

Sl.No.	Depository Particlpant & Client DP No.	Asset Description
1.	Stock Holding Corporation. DP ID - IN301135 Client ID- 13927261.	17 shares in MOIL Limited vide Client ISIN No. INE490G01020 held jointly with Priti Malpani.
2.	Barclays Securities DP ID - IN303559 Client ID – 1002182	516 shares in KDDL Limited vide Client ISIN No. INE291D02011.
3.		5,531 shares in KDDL Limited vide Client ISIN No. INE291D01011.
4.		100 shares in Software Technology Group International Limited vide Client ISIN No. INE863A01013.
5.		100 shares in Telesys Software Limited vide Client ISIN No. INE042B01012.
6.		50 shares in Zenith Infotech Limited vide Client ISIN No. INE899A01017
7.		428 shares in NTPC Limited (Fixed Interest Bonds) vide Client ISIN No. INE733E07JP6.

IV. Any other Fixed Deposit/ Investments/ Bank Accounts/ Movable Assets/ Credit Balance/ Shares held in the name of Late Arun Kumar Malpani.

B. ASSETS BEQUEATED TO BOTH PETITIONER No. 1 & 2 EQUALLY (½ SHARE EACH)

V. MUTUAL FUNDS

Sl.No.	Asset Description
1.	Account held with HDFC Mutual Fund vide Folio No. 6661584.
2.	Account held with ICICI Prudent Mutual Fund Balance Fund vide Folio No. 14135270.
3.	Account held with SBI Mutual Fund vide Folio No. 13369384.

VI. Any other Mutual Funds held in the name of Late Arun Kumar Malpani.

C. ASSETS BEQUEATED TO PETITIONER No. 2

VII. All jewelleries in possession of Late Arun Kumar Malpani.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on 6th day of March 2023.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT,
Sd/-
Assistant Registrar,
City Civil Court, Bangalore.

Sd/- **ARUN GOVINDRAJ,** Advocate
#2, Ground Floor, Belview Apartments, No.7, Haudin Road, Bangalore - 560 042.

MAHATRANSCO Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

E-TENDER NOTICE

MSETCL SRM invites online RFx (E-Tender) from the Registered Contractors for MAHATRANSCO E-Tendering (SRM) website for below mentioned work. **E-Tender No./RFx No. 7000026759 Name of Work:** "Shifting of 400KV D/C Talegaon-Kharghar- Kalwa Line (using Monopole & Lattice Structure) & 100KV D/C Kalwa-Mumbra- Pal Line (using Lattice Structure) Infringing Proposed Solid Waste Disposal Plant at survey No. 15,16,17 & 18/1 (P) Village: Diager, Kalyan - Shilphata Road, Tal. & Dist. Thane under ORC." **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 18,56,20,391/- **Tender Fee:** Rs. 25,000/- + GST. **Date for Sale and Submission of the E-Tender Documents:** From 20.03.2023 @ 12:00 Hrs to 05.04.2023 @ 12:00 Hrs. For detailed information visit our website: **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer
EHV PC (O&M) Zone, Vashi

UJVN LIMITED (An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprise)
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135 - 2763508, 2763808 & Fax: 0135- 2763507
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvnl.com

पत्र सं. 259 **Date Extension Notice No. 1** दिनांक: 18.03.2023

Due to unavoidable circumstances, due dates of Tender Notice No 32/EE/PCM/Dhalipur/2022-23, 33/EE/PCM/Dhalipur/2022-23, 34/EE/PCM/ Dhalipur/ 2022-23 & 35/EE/PCM/Dhalipur/ 2022-23 invited by Office of the Executive Engineer Project Civil Maintenance Dhalipur Dehradun are extended as follows:

Last date/time for submission of tender : 28.03.2023 at 13:00 Hrs
Last Date of Off line Submission of document : 28.03.2023 at 16:00 Hrs **(Document in original)**
Date of opening of tender : 29.03.2023 at 11:00 Hrs.

All other terms & conditions of the tender shall remain unchanged.

Details of subsequent addendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from the website. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **"http//uktenders.gov.in"**

Executive Engineer

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

₹11,500 cr have been invested in the Indian equities by foreign investors so far this month mainly driven by bulk investment from GQG Partners.

It's time for investors to lock in attractive bond yields

With rate cycles nearing peak, experts believe that the debt market has become an attractive investment option for retail investors

SACHIN KUMAR @Mumbai

THE collapse of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank in the US; and the crisis in Credit Suisse have not only spooked the equity markets but have also dented the yields in the debt market.

Despite the recent fall in yields due to global developments, experts are betting on the debt market.

Analysts believe that as we are close to the end of the rate hike cycle and due to a significant rise in the yields over the past months, the debt market has become an attractive investment option for retail investors.

Rate cycle close to its peak

With easing of inflation, decline in crude oil prices and weaker growth, analysts are not expecting much increase in interest rates in coming months. Experts agree that the interest rate cycle will peak out in the next few months.

"Debt mutual funds have become more attractive with the rise in yields as investors can gain from higher coupons and lesser mark-to-market impacts on portfolios as interest rates may be reasonably close to peaking out. For investors who are in higher tax brackets, debt funds continue to be very attractive due to indexation benefits if they are held for more than 3 years," Vishal Dhawan, Vice Chairman, Association of Registered Investment Advisors told TNIE.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in the current rate hike cycle has raised repo rates by 250 bps since May 2022 till February 2023 from 4% to 6.5%.

"In India, rate hike cycle is near end with expectations of one last rate hike of 25bps in April 2023. Since higher return in the debt market is made when investments are done near the peak of the rate cycle, the year 2023 could mark the comeback year of debt markets in India as well as globally," said Sachin Jain, Research Analyst, ICICI Direct. "Given the increase in the yields in the past months, this is the best time to invest in debt funds. Going forward, I am very positive on debt funds in India. All the negative news like- inflation is high, central banks will keep raising rates- have already been priced in," Sandeep Yadav, Head - Fixed Income, DSP Mutual Fund told this newspaper.

ATTRACTIVE YIELDS

7.9% Yield on 3-year AAA-rated corporate bond in March 2023	7.8% Yield on 5-year AAA rated corporate bond in March 2023	7.35% Yield on benchmark 10-year government bonds
4.7% Yield on 3-year AAA-rated corporate bond in Oct 2020	5.6% Yield on 5-year AAA rated corporate bond in Oct 2020	

"Inflation is easing, rupee is comparatively stable. Now the incentive for the RBI to hike rates is much less. One rate hike is already priced in by the market and that hike is not going to make yield fall significantly," he said.

Yields have risen

The yields across the curve and across the credit spectrum have moved up significantly in the last two years. Yield on the 3-year AAA-rated corporate bond has moved up from the October 2020 lows of 4.7% to 7.9% currently in March 2023. Similarly, yield on 5-year AAA rated corporate bonds has moved up from 5.6% to 7.8% during the same period. The benchmark 10-year G-Sec yield is trading around 7.35% levels up from below 6% levels at the start of the current rate hike cycle.

"Indian debt market has become attractive after the continuous rise in yields in the last few years. The yields across debt mutual funds have risen and offer excellent investment opportunities," said Jain.

Analysts believe that the current higher level of yields closer to 8% is around peak levels and likely trend lower over a period of time.

"The YTMs (Yield to Maturity) of a representative short term debt fund or corporate bond fund is currently around 7.7%-8% and offers excellent investment opportunities.

The risk of capital loss due to further rise in yields is minimal at current levels and therefore the return going forward is likely equal or higher than current YTMs of the fund," added Jain.

Time to lock-in higher yields

Investors should avoid trying to time the market on debt funds and invest through a combination of hold to maturity debt funds and short-term debt funds to lock in yields.

"Investors should consider laddering their investment maturities over different time frames to reduce reinvestment risk," Dhawan said.

Existing investors should be mindful of taxes when they shuffle their debt portfolios and also focus on the credit quality of the underlying assets," he added. "New investors should ideally invest in high credit quality short to medium term funds, with a portion in hold to maturity instruments," he added.

Experts say that the volatility in the global bond market due to movement in interest rates will not impact investors who have exposure to debt funds holding bonds having maturity of less than three years.

"When it comes to the impact of interest rates on debt funds, investors should look at the duration of bonds. Investors need to check if their fund is holding bonds greater than five years. If it is so, then the rate movement could impact them materially. For bonds less than four years, the interest rate movement will not have a major impact on the performance of debt funds," Feroze Azeez, Deputy CEO of Anand Rathi Wealth, told TNIE.

"From debt market standpoint, Indian retail investors do not have to worry about what's happening around the world," he added.

MONEY MATTERS

WHAT FINANCIAL MARKETS CONTAGION MEANS TO YOUR MONEY

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

THERE is a crisis brewing in America's banking system once again. Raghuram Rajan, former RBI governor and a close observer of the US economy, warned of long-term systemic consequences of short-term bailouts of banks that choose to take risks. He said that the story was not over yet. That is no good news for America and the world economy. Financial markets worldwide were spooked by the turmoil in two small US banks and Credit Suisse, a Swiss banking group.

It is a world that is far more integrated than it was in 2008. There are fears of a contagion hurting markets from Europe to Asia due to problems in America. That should worry you too.

A paper by the Bank of International Settlements published in March 2023 observes that a 1% increase in the US bond yields leads to a 1.15% increase in local currency yields in emerging markets. It leads to a 6% depreciation in currencies and a fall of 5% in domestic equity markets.

The paper also measures the money pulled out during every such spike. About 8% value of bond and equity funds is pulled out from the emerging market assets. India is a significant part of global emerging market funds. Money passively invested in India and other markets could continue to move out. The paper adds that a 10% appreciation in the US broad dollar index, a measure of the strength of the US dollar against major currencies, leads to a currency depreciation of about 8% and a similar size fall in equity prices.

Foreign portfolio investors have pulled out $2.7bn from equity markets in 2023. That is on the back of $16bn pulled out in 2022.

While domestic mutual funds continue to put close to $2bn monthly in equity markets, the overall negative sentiment in the world markets is unlikely to push up share prices in India. That is primarily because Indian shares trade at a higher valuation than the average multiple in other emerging markets.

The consumer price Inflation will remain elevated as the latest data for February 2023 showed no respite. It was higher than the 6% upper limit target of the Reserve Bank of India. That means interest rates are likely to stay elevated too.

If stock markets are not going anywhere and interest rates are likely to stay high, you must protect your money from losses. You will see equity assets lose some sheen and money lose value to inflation. Diversification is the best weapon you could use to protect your investments.

SOURAV ROY

Higher valuation

Indian shares trade at a higher valuation than the average multiple in other emerging markets. When market volatility is high, portfolio diversification will allow you to buy peace of mind.

Portfolio diversification is a strategy to spread money across different asset classes, industries and geographical regions. That will ensure that a drop in one asset class does not hurt your overall portfolio. The asset classes could include equity, debt, gold, commodities and real estate.

The downside of such a strategy is that you will not get the highest return as you prioritise safety. However, your return potential is much higher in the long term than in a concentrated portfolio. We must assume that you invest the money you do not need to spend now. If you have short-term expenditures to incur, you don't need to worry. To protect your capital, you must park your funds in instruments like fixed deposits or liquid funds.

Even holding on to your capital is an achievement during a global financial market meltdown. Avoiding significant losses by cutting down on risky investments will allow you to use your cash when the opportunity arises.

When market volatility is high, portfolio diversification will allow you to buy peace of mind. You can reduce stress and anxiety in the short term and focus on your long-term financial goals. Regularly investing through systematic investment plans will help you with the advantage of rupee-cost averaging. That means you will buy fewer units or shares when prices are high and more of them when prices are low. A disciplined approach towards investing will help you ride through any potential market turmoil.

MONEY-WISE

COMPOUNDING WITH SIP TOP-UPS

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
Head of LKW-India. He can be reached at ceolotus@hotmail.com

WHILE discussing the lesser known huge impact of SIP top-ups on the creation of wealth through compounding with one of my younger colleagues, I narrated an experience I had post addressing a seminar some years ago about which I had written.

For the record, a SIP Top-up is a facility wherein an investor who has enrolled for SIP has an option to increase the amount of their SIP instalment by a fixed amount or percentage at predefined intervals. This increase can be linked to future income and growth. Investors can specify the upper limit to cap the top-up either in terms of the amount or the month and year. Topping-up the SIP will stop when the defined cap is reached.

A top-up facility is an efficient way to keep your savings growing in line with your income. Using a top-up facility, an investor can increase their monthly contribution in an ongoing SIP. While most mutual fund houses refer to it as Top-Up, some others call it SIP Booster or SIP Step-Up facility. Most prominent fund houses offer this facility to investors.

Some of the key advantages of a Top-Up SIP include its ability to keep your savings keep pace with the rise in inflation. Although this sounds innocuous, it plays a vital role in ensuring one is not left with idle funds that do not work towards beating the inflation rate.

Then, Top-Ups provide operational convenience as there is no need to submit a fresh ECS Bank Debit Mandate in order to top-up existing SIPs. At the same time, one should note here that once they opt for the SIP Top-up facility no modification can be made to the same. The investor will have to cancel the current SIP and enrol for a new one.

SIP Top-Ups can help investors reach their financial goals faster as they incrementally accumulate towards the goal target amount sooner than the originally projected time frame. Again, most salaried individuals expect a yearly salary hike and may get bonuses on an annual basis. A SIP Top-up option increases the investment of one's savings, alongside salary growth.

Post the session, one of my young team members had worked out the number impact that a SIP Top-Up could potentially have on a performing mutual fund scheme over a long time frame. The results were impressive.

Am sharing the same below:

Option 1 : Only SIP
SIP ₹10k p.m.
Corpus after 15 years @ 12% CAGR = ₹47.5 lakh

Option 2 : SIP + TOP-UP
SIP ₹10k p.m.
Top Up ₹2k p.m.(further increased yearly too by additional 2k p.m.)
Corpus after 15 years @ 12% CAGR = ₹95 lakh

Of course, the key lies in selecting a mutual fund scheme that will perform over a 15-year time frame. There is no dearth of such schemes in the Indian mutual fund universe but to select them, one would do well to seek professional advice.

Adanis suspend work on ₹34,900 cr petchem project

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@New Delhi

THE Hindenburg Research findings about the Adani Group continue to take its toll on the group's capex plans. A PTI report quoting unnamed sources says that the Gautam Adani-led group has suspended work on a ₹34,900 crore petrochemical project at Mundra in Gujarat in an attempt to preserve resources and address investors' concern over high leverage.

According to the report, the group has decided not to pursue the 1 million tonne per annum Green PVC project for the time being. The group has shot off mails to vendors and suppliers to "suspend all activities" on immediate basis. In the mails, seen by PTI, the group has asked them to "suspend all activities of the scope of work and performance of all obligations" for Mundra Petrochem Ltd's Green PVC project "till further notice." This is the following "unforeseen scenario". The management, it said, was "re-evaluating various project/s being implemented at group level in different business verticals. Based on future cashflow and finance, some of the project/s are being re-evaluated for its continuation and revision in timeline."

When TNIE contacted Adani group spokesperson to check the veracity of the PTI report, they refused to confirm the report. However, they issued a statement that says: "The balance sheet of each of our independent portfolio companies is very strong. We have industry-leading project development and execution capabilities, strong corporate governance, secure assets, strong cash flows."

SCRUTINY

GST dept to go after entities not paying taxes

THE GST department will soon begin analysing ITRs filed by businesses and professionals and also MCA filings to ascertain if the entities are discharging their GST liability and widening the taxpayer base.

Currently, there are 1.38 crore registered businesses and professionals under GST, which was launched on July 1, 2017. Businesses in manufacturing and services sectors with annual turnover of more than Rs 40 lakh and Rs 20 lakh, respectively are required to register themselves under the GST and file tax returns.

"We will do data triangulation based on the information available with us. If as per the analysis, the entities which should be paying taxes are not doing so, then initially we will be send a gentle inquiry," an official said. *PTI*

Nestle chairman takes 6% salary cut in 2022

DIPAK MONDAL @New Delhi

NESTLE India chairman and managing director Suresh Narayanan took a 6% salary cut in 2022 as his annual salary during the year came down to ₹ 17.7 crore from ₹18.8 crore in the previous year.

The company's annual report released recently shows that a majority of the drop in his annual salary was due to cut in perquisites during the year. In 2022, Narayanan received ₹4.2 crore as perquisites compared to ₹5.9 crore received in 2021.

Other components of his salary in 2022 include ₹9.6 crore as salary and allowances, ₹3.6 crore as commission and performance linked incentives. The company contributed ₹36 lakh towards his PF account during the year.

Chief Financial Officer David Steven McDanie, who demitted his office from 1 March 2023, was the second highest paid executive with a total salary of ₹7.97 crore. Matthias Christoph Lohner, who is executive director (technical) received ₹6.75 crore as salary during the year.

SURESH NARAYANAN'S ANNUAL SALARY

Salary Components	2022 (₹cr)	2021 (₹cr)
Salaries and Allowances	9.62	9.24
Perqusites	4.2	5.9
Company's Contribution to PF	0.36	0.34
Commission and Performance Linked Incentive	3.6	3.2
Total	**17.7**	**18.8**

According to the annual report, chairman and MD Suresh Narayanan's salary in 2022 is 120 times the median salary of the company's employees. This is lower than the previous year when the ratio of his salary to the median salary of the company's employees was 135 times.

The median salary of male employees (other than board of directors and key managerial personnel) of the company in 2022 was ₹16.51 lakh and that of women employees was ₹12.84 lakh.

The median remuneration of employees in 2022 saw an increase of 6.6% compared to 10.8% in the previous year.

"The increases (in remuneration) are a function of the company's market competitiveness within its comparator group as ascertained through the detailed salary benchmarking survey the company undertakes annually and reflects the company's reward philosophy," the company said in its annual report.

The number of permanent employees on the rolls of the company during 2022 was 8,117 compared to 7,910 in 2021

The company posted revenue growth of 14.5% in 2022 to ₹16,790 crore compared to ₹14,665 crore in 2021. The net profit of the company grew by 12.8% to ₹ 2,390 crore compared to ₹2,118 crore in 2021.

Employees' remuneration

Suresh Narayanan's salary in 2022 is 120 times the median salary of the company's employees. The median remuneration of employees in 2022 saw an increase of 6.6% compared to 10.8% in the previous year.

Vikash, Paramjeet qualify for Oly, 2023 World C'ships

India's 20km race walkers Vikash Singh and Paramjeet Singh Bisht on Sunday qualified for the 2024 Olympics as well as 2023 World C'ships during the Asian Championships in Japan. Vikash and Paramjeet finished second and third in the open category of the Asian 20km Race Walking Championships, clocking 1:20:05sec & 1:20:08sec respectively.

Australia's Mitchell Starc claimed a fifer, his ninth in 109 ODIs, to bowl out India cheaply in the second match on Sunday | AP

MITCH MASALA

Left-arm pacer runs through Indian top-order yet again to hand Australia a 10-wicket victory

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @Chennai

BRIEF SCORES

India 117 all out in 26 ovs (Kohli 31; Starc 5/53, Abbott 3/23, Ellis 2/13)
lost to Australia 121 for no loss in 11 ovs (Head 51 n.o, Marsh 66 n.o).

KL RAHUL has just walked out to the middle after the dismissal of Suryakumar Yadav — the Indian No. 4 who was trapped on the pads by an inswinger from Mitchell Starc for a first-ball duck. The Australian left-armer is on a hat-trick. You might think this is from the first ODI in Mumbai, but it wasn't.

It all felt like deja vu as Starc had run through the Indian top-order, reducing them to 32/3 in 4.5 overs in Visakhapatnam on Sunday. The six foot five inch-tall pacer was breathing fire from the moment he took the new ball after the tourists opted to bowl. His accuracy was on the mark once again at the YS Rajasekhara Reddy stadium, with Shubman Gill, Rohit Sharma, and Suryakumar back in the pavilion. Rahul's first delivery was another close inswinger that the batter managed to survive. However, he did not last long. A couple of overs later, Starc pitched one on off-stump which shaped into the middle-stump and hit the pads of Rahul, who tried to flick it through the leg side. Before even Rahul knew, the umpire's finger went up and India were four down.

Starc would go on to get rid of Mohammed Siraj by coming around the wicket to finish off India's innings for a meagre 117 in 26 overs, which the tourists had no trouble chasing in 11 overs without losing any wickets. The left-armer had a fifer next to his name, 5/53, his ninth in just 109 matches. Only Muttiah Muralitharan (10 in 350 games) and Waqar Younis (13 in 262 games) have more ODI fifers than Starc, but it should only be a matter of time before the Australian surpasses the legendary duo.

''Starc is a hardworking bowler, knows how to effectively use the conditions," S Sriram, former Australian team assistant coach who has worked with Starc for many years, told this daily. "He knows his game well and knows how to set up a batter even when there are conditions that just about help a bowler. He always bowls with an intent to take wickets and when things work he is a difficult proposition to play."

Among other things, what makes Starc stand out is the way he is able to adapt and improvise with respect to his pace or the angles depending on the conditions and the batter. Case in point is the difference in the way he pushed it wide and across to Gill and Rohit and brought it back for Yadav and Rahul."He analyses the batter well and makes subtle changes in his bowling maybe line, length or angle to get purchase. This ability to lift the quality of his game spontaneously makes him the best left-handed fast bowler in the world," says Sriram.

In Rohit's dismissal, the ball flew off the outside edge towards Steve Smith at first slip, who held onto the catch on the second attempt. After taking the catch, Smith suggested how the ball was wobbling on its way towards him. Even Mitchell Marsh revealed after the game it is a nightmare standing in the slips when Starc bowls. "It is horrible standing at slip when he bowls because it flies at about 80 mph off the edge. But it is great to see him bowl like this, we now have a rare chance to win an away series in India," said Marsh.

Skipper Smith attributed the clinical performance that levelled the series to teamwork. "It was a quick one (the game and victory). Only 37 overs, you don't usually see that. Starc with the new ball put them (India) under pressure. I didn't know how the wicket was going to play. We were just trying to execute our plans. Just that kind of a day when the nicks went to hand. The way Head and Marsh played at the start. They just kept going and we are able to bounce back after the last game," said Smith.

While India might have to regroup quickly to course correct, the fans in Chennai would be thrilled to witness a decider come Wednesday.

EXPRESS READ

Jehan roars to Saudi Arabia podium

JEDDAH: India's Jehan Daruvala raced to his 16th Formula 2 podium with a third-place finish in Sprint race of the championship's Saudi Arabian round. The MP Motorsport driver started fifth and was hustling eventual winner Ayumu Iwasa for the win but dropped to third just three laps from the end after making a daring bid for the lead that very nearly earned him his first win of the season.

Skipper Hope hits 128, WI beat South Africa

EAST LONDON: Shai Hope made 128 not out in his first game as West Indies one-day captain to set up a 48-run win over South Africa. Proteas skipper Temba Bavuma replied with a century of his own in the second ODI at Buffalo Park but his 144 from 118 balls wasn't enough. Hope's century inspired West Indies to 335-8 and South Africa was all out for 287. **Brief scores:** WI 335/8 in 50 ovs (Hope 128 n.o) bt SA (Bavuma 144).

Magala joins CSK as replacement player

CHENNAI: Chennai Super Kings (CSK) have signed South Africa pacer Sisanda Magala as a replacement for New Zealand bowler Kyle Jamieson for the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2023. Jamieson, who was ruled out of the tournament due to an injury, was bought by the franchise for ₹1 crore. His replacement, Magala, has a reputation of being a regular wicket-taker in domestic T20 games over the years.

Singapore finds new world

ANMOL GURUNG @New Delhi

Nikhat Zareen (L) in action against Algeria's Roumaysa Boualam | PARVEEN NEGI

THE Singapore team is one of the newest entrants in the world women's boxing championships. In fact this is the first time Danisha Mathialagan, who has her roots in Namakkal (Tamil Nadu), and the rest of the Singapore team are at the world event.

Anyone could have been disheartened given the state of sport in their country but not Danisha. She radiates positivity as she explains what keeps her wanting to keep the fire for the sport burning. "I feel I have a solid team. The coaches, who are ex-boxers, have been really supportive. They know how it feels to not have funds, not have enough exposure. I guess, with this, in this new team, we are trying to achieve greater things."

It's comprehensible that she's someone who likes to challenge herself and she has mastered the art of juggling between training, studies and other passions. "It's about management, juggling between training and studies. I guess that's the life of a Singaporean athlete because we don't have funds and we're not paid to box here. But it's okay! I'm really enjoying it. You can be really good at one thing but if you can be good at two things, it's even better right?"

The fact that her parents have started to value her pursuit for combat sport speaks for itself. "Being a daughter, it was a little difficult to get their blessings initially. But they do see that it comes with a lot of discipline, time management. They see that I work very hard and I guess that they're okay with it. They still haven't watched me fight in real life, but they are scared that I'll get hit but I understand...but they are really supporting."

The last time she visited India was when she was a toddler. She's happy to soak in the Indian culture here.

"When I was three years old, I visited India. My grandparents are from South India (Namakkal). I understand and speak a little bit of Tamil. I feel a bit of the Indian vibes."

She draws inspiration from her mother. It also becomes clear why she chose a rewarding passion like embalming. "I definitely look up to my mom. She is so passionate about her nursing job. I have seen her work day and night. She still takes care of her family. She doesn't really do anything for herself. She is totally selfless. I really look up to her."

Sky is the limit for someone like Danisha, who embraces challenges with a smile and is not afraid to live life on her own terms.

Nikhat & Manisha cruise

Having missed out on seedings in the ongoing IBA Women's World Championships, India's star pugilist Nikhat Zareen had stated that seedings don't really matter after her first-round win on the opening day of the event. The unseeded Indian, a gold winner in the last edition, attested the same with a victory over No 1 seed, Roumaysa of Algeria, in the 50kg category on Sunday. The Indian started on an attacking note and maintained control of the bout in the remaining two rounds to win by 5-0 verdict, advancing to pre-quarterfinals in the process. "My strategy was to dominate the round as she (Roumaysa) was the top seed... If I beat the top seeds, it sets an impression on the judges," Nikhat said after the bout. Manisha Moun (57kg) also had no problems beating Australia's Tina Rahimi later. The 2022 edition bronze medallist won by identical margin (5-0).

Umpire Madanagopal set for homecoming

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @Chennai

WHILE Australian pacer Mitchell Starc was stealing all the limelight with his stellar show on the field in the second ODI in Visakhapatnam, there was one familiar face behind the boundary ropes that caught the attention. It was of former Tamil Nadu first-class cricketer JR Madanagopal who was acting as the third umpire.

Having made his debut in women's ODIs back in 2013, Madanagopal stood as an umpire for the first time in a men's international during the 2021 India-New Zealand T20I at Ranchi. Over the years he has made rapid strides and on Wednesday, he is set to reach another milestone as Madanagopal will be officiating an international match for the first time at his home ground — the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai.

A smooth-stroking batter for Tamil Nadu in his playing days, Madanagopal has been a coach of TNPL teams and first-division teams of the TNCA in the past. From 2007, he has been in the BCCI panel of umpires. In the third ODI, he will be emulating the likes of S Venkataraghavan and S Ravi, the other former players from the state to have officiated an international match in Chennai.

The exposure Madanagopal got in domestic cricket over the years and his experience in women internationals helped him move up the ladder in the BCCI panel of umpires. He got an opportunity to officiate in the 2021 edition of the Indian Premier League after being the fourth umpire in the season before and the India-England ODI earlier that year.

His composure is his biggest ally and an important trait that has come in handy for his job. "Right from the first domestic match he umpired, he has always remained calm while umpiring. He concentrates on the job and does not bother who is batting or bowling. He has a clear mind and acts accordingly," said former India player and commentator L Balaji .

As it has been well established, umpiring in the era of DRS is not easy, especially in front of a large, noisy crowd. There is a lot of distraction and they are always under the lens of the fans, particularly on social media. Madanagopal, it seems, is not affected by any of it. "He (Madanagopal) is a cool guy, he does not worry about anything unnecessarily. He has self-confidence and this helps him handle the job effectively," pointed out Balaji.

Rohan Bopanna (L) and Matthew Ebden celebrate with the winners trophy after defeating Wesley Koolhof and Neal Skupski in the doubles final | AFP

Bopanna, the oldest ATP Masters 1000 champion

AGENCIES @Indian Wells

INDIA'S Rohan Bopanna became the oldest ATP Masters 1000 champion when he and his Australian partner Matt Ebden claimed the men's doubles crown at the BNP Paribas Open. 43-year-old Bopanna and Ebden, 35, defeated top-seeded Wesley Koolhof of the Netherlands and Neil Skupski of Britain 6-3, 2-6, 10-8 in the final on Saturday. Bopanna thus surpassed Daniel Nestor of Canada, who had claimed the 2015 Cincinnati Masters to become the oldest champion at the age of 42.

"Truly special. It's called Tennis Paradise for a reason," said Bopanna, who was playing in his 10th ATP Masters 1000 final. "I've been, over the years, coming here and seeing all these guys win for so many years. I'm really happy that Matt and I were able to do this and get this title here.

"It's been some tough matches, close matches. Today we played against one of the best teams out there. Really happy that we got the trophy. I spoke to Danny Nestor and I told him sorry I'm going to beat his record," he joked. "Winning the title, that stays with me, so really happy with that."

It was the 43-year-old's fifth Masters 1000 doubles title and first since he won in Monte Carlo in 2017. This was the third final of the year for the Indo-Australian duo. He now holds 24 tour-level trophies in his cabinet. The Indo-Australian pair stunned defending and two-time desert titlists John Isner and Jack Sock in the semi-finals, while getting the better off Felix Auger-Aliassime and Denis Shapovalov in the quarters.

Can UP seal the playoff spot?

UP Warriorz take on Gujarat Titans before the clash between Mumbai Indians and Delhi Capitals on Monday. A look...

WARRIORZ & CLUTCH, A PERFECT COMBINATION

They have been under the pump through the tournament, especially with their reliance on overseas stars. However, that is where these stars thrive. Alyssa Healy, Sophie Ecclestone, Grace Harris, Tahlia McGrath and Shabnim Ismail — they cannot have more clutch players in the squad. And Monday is the day, these people will look to rise to the occasion

GIANTS SEEK TO MAKE A MARK

After a long and hard mix and match, it seemed like the Giants had finally figured out their best playing XI against Royal Challengers Bangalore. They even posted a good total but were blown away by Sophie Devine. Against UP, they will have the support of RCB fans as well, Giants are likely to play the same XI and make the most of it

TOP-TIER BATTLE

With Mumbai losing to UP in their previous game, there is still a chance for Delhi to get ahead of them. The first step would be beating Mumbai on Monday should they want to finish at the top and reach the final directly. Harmanpreet Kaur won the first round, will Meg Lanning get the better of her this time around?

12 Sophie Ecclestone leads the wicket tally so far, and also have made two match-winning contributions with the bat for UP Warriorz

Live on Sports18 and Jio Cinema

▸▸ UP WARRIORZ VS GUJARAT GIANTS, BRABOURNE STADIUM, 3.30 PM
▸▸ MUMBAI INDIANS VS DELHI CAPITALS, DY PATIL STADIUM, 7.30 PM

FENG'S SHINING MOMENT

China's Li Shi Feng (L) celebrates after winning the All England badminton championships on Sunday. South Korea's An Se Young won the women's title; Indonesia's Fajar Alfian & Muhammad Rian Ardianto bagged the men's doubles crown while China's Huang Ya Qiong & Zheng Si Wei won in mixed doubles. In women's doubles, South Korea's Kong Hee-yong & Kim So-yeong won the title | AP

PREMIER LEAGUE

Saka's double takes Arsenal eight points clear

AFP @London

ARSENAL surged eight points clear at the top of the Premier League as Bukayo Saka's brace inspired a 4-1 rout of Crystal Palace on Sunday. Gabriel Martinelli opened the scoring in the first half at the Emirates Stadium to put the leaders on course for a sixth successive league victory.

It was redemption for Martinelli, whose missed penalty condemned Arsenal to Europa League last 16 defeat in their shoot-out against Sporting Lisbon on Thursday. Mikel Arteta's side needed just 45 minutes against struggling Palace to erase the bitter taste of that loss. Saka followed Martinelli's goal by doubling Arsenal's lead before half-time.

Granit Xhaka netted the third after the interval and Jeff Schlupp's reply was no consolation as the influential Saka's second capped Arsenal's stylish display. Arsenal now have a substantial eight-point lead over second placed Manchester City, who took the weekend off from Premier League duty to thrash Burnley in the FA Cup quarter-finals on Saturday.

With a game in hand on Arsenal and a crucial clash with the Gunners looming on April 26, Pep Guardiola's champions will still believe they can win a fifth title in six seasons. But heading into the international break, Arsenal have ensured the fate of the title race will be in their hands in the final 10 games.

Bukayo Saka (C) scored a brace as Arsenal thrashed Crystal Palace 4-1 | AFP

After surrendering top spot with a defeat against City in February, Arsenal have responded impressively, showing a maturity and composure far beyond the Gunners' teams that routinely underachieved in recent years. Arteta deserves immense credit for transforming a side that blew their top four place last season. Less than a year later, Arsenal, the first English side ever to win nine London derbies in a single season, have the look of champions elect. Arteta had labelled the Palace clash as the most important match of his managerial career and his players once again rose to the challenge.

Result: Arsenal 4-1 Crystal Palace.

Greece on Sunday commemorated the 80th anniversary of the first deportations of Greek Jews to Auschwitz-Birkenau in Thessaloniki, the northern metropolis that lost almost its entire flourishing Jewish community

Experts on Sunday destroyed a large World War II naval mine found by chance in a northern Croatian port, prompting hundreds of residents to be evacuated, the officials said

EXFILE • ARCHAEOLOGY

Looking for Jewish heritage in Morocco's southern oases

In the depths of Morocco's Akka oasis, two archaeologists pore over the floor of a synagogue searching for the minutest of fragments testifying to the country's ancient Jewish history

Archaeologist working in the ruins of a synagogue in Jewish neighbourhood in Tagadirt

KNOW ABOUT AKKA

• Akka, a lush green valley of date palms surrounded by desert hills some 525 km south of the capital Rabat • Within the oasis, tucked away in the middle of the "mellah" or Jewish quarter of the village of Tagadirt, lie the ruins of the synagogue

A woman walks among trees in the village of Tagadirt in Morocco's oasis region of Tata | AFP

DISCOVERY OF HEBREW MANUSCRIPT

They are from a team of six researchers from Morocco, Israel and France, part of a project to revive the North African country's Jewish heritage

The discovery of a fragment of a Hebrew religious manuscript is "a sign from above," jokes Israeli archaeologist Yuval Yekutieli

JEWS IN MOROCCO

The Jewish community in Morocco reached its peak in the 15th century, following the brutal expulsion of Sephardic Jews from Spain

By the early 20th century, there were about 250,000 Jews in Morocco

But after waves of departures with the creation of Israel in 1948, including following the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, ***the number was slashed to just 2,000 today***

OTHER DISCOVERIES

As the day progresses, the archaeologists amass a small trove of manuscript fragments, amulets and other objects discovered under the "bimah," a raised platform in the centre of the synagogue

Yekutieli, the Israeli archaeologist, said the "most surprising thing" was that no one had written about the buried objects, and that it was only when excavations began that they were discovered

Among the artefacts unearthed by the team are commercial contracts and marriage certificates, everyday utensils & coins

It's urgent to work on these types of vulnerable spaces that are at risk of disappearing

— Saghir Mabrouk, an archaeologist from Morocco's National Institute of Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

LOOTINGS

The synagogue in Akka had already begun to fall into disrepair when ***looters attempted to raid the buried cache.*** However, one of the beams collapsed, making access difficult

A similar looting attempt was recorded at the ruined synagogue of Aguerd Tamanart, sited in another oasis some 70 km southwest of Akka, where excavations began in 2021

Artefacts here were not buried but hidden in a secret compartment behind a collapsed wall

The team was able to save the majority of the objects, ***some 100,000 pieces including fragments of manuscripts and amulets***

UNDERSTANDING JUDAEO-MOROCCAN HISTORY

WHILE THE SITE HAS YET TO BE DATED, EXPERTS SAY IT IS CRUCIAL TO UNDERSTANDING THE JUDAEO-MOROCCAN HISTORY OF THE REGION

HIGHER RATE OF CANCER FOUND IN ARMY PILOTS

Pentagon study said that air crew members had 87% higher rate of melanoma cancer

HEALTH

WASHINGTON: A Pentagon study has found high rates of cancer among military pilots and for the first time has shown that ground crews who fuel, maintain and launch those aircraft are also getting sick.

In its yearlong study of almost 900,000 service members who flew on or worked on military aircraft between 1992 and 2017, the Pentagon found that air crew members had an 87% higher rate of melanoma and a 39% higher rate of thyroid cancer, while men had a 16% higher rate of prostate cancer and women a 16% higher rate of breast cancer. Overall, the air crews had a 24% higher rate of cancer of all types.

The study showed ground crews had a 19% higher rate of brain and nervous system cancers, a 15% higher rate of thyroid cancer and a 9% higher rate of kidney or renal cancers, while women had a 7% higher rate of breast cancer. The overall rate for cancers of all types was 3% higher.

There was some good news reported as well. Both ground and air crews had far lower rates of lung cancer, and air crews also had lower rates of bladder and colon cancers.

The data compared the service members with the general US population after adjusting for age, sex and race.

The Pentagon said the new study was one of the largest and most comprehensive to date. An earlier study had looked at just Air Force pilots and had found some higher rates of cancer, while this one looked across all services and at both air and ground crews. Even with the wider approach, the Pentagon cautioned that the actual number of cancer cases was likely to be even higher due to gaps in the data.

The study was required by Congress in the 2021 defence bill. Now, because higher rates were found, the Pentagon must conduct an even bigger review to try to understand why the crews are getting sick.

Isolating potential causes is difficult, and the Pentagon was careful to note that this study "does not imply that military service in air crew or ground crew occupations causes cancer, because there are multiple potential confounding factors that could not be controlled for in this analysis," such as family histories or alcohol use.

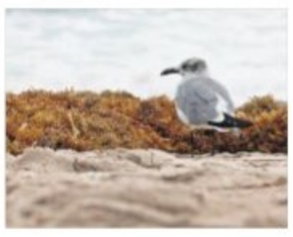
But aviation crews have long asked for the Pentagon to look closely at some of the environmental factors they are exposed to, like jet fuels and solvents used to clean and maintain jet parts, and their power sources in aircraft nose cones, and massive radar systems on the decks of the ships they land on.

The Pentagon acknowledged that the study had gaps.

The military heath system database used in the study did not have reliable cancer data until 1990, so it may not have included pilots who flew early-generation jets in the earlier decades.

FACT OF THE MATTER

Toxic algae ruins spring in Florida



ENVIRONMENT

With its brilliant sun and white sand, Lido Key Beach would make for a perfect postcard of Florida beaches if it weren't for the dozens of dead fish lying on the shore, killed by a toxic algae bloom known as red tide. The bloom usually hits Florida's Gulf Coast in the summer, but this year it has come during spring. High amounts of the harmful algae, known as Karenia brevis, can kill marine life and cause respiratory complications in some people. It also has a sulfurous, decaying smell. Scientists from the Mote Marine Laboratory have been working since 2020 to lessen the impact of red tide, a phenomenon first reported by Spanish explorers in the 15th and 16th centuries.

Mystery light in the sky of Calif

SPACE

Mysterious streaks of light were seen in the sky in the Sacramento, California on Friday night, shocking St. Patrick's Day revelers. Jaime Hernandez was in the Sacramento area when some people noticed the lights. Hernandez quickly began filming. It was over in about 40 seconds, he said. Jonathan McDowell, an astronomer at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics said on Saturday in an interview with *AP* that he's 99.9% confident the streaks of light were from burning space debris. The flaming bits of wreckage created a "spectacular light show in the sky," McDowell said. He estimated that the debris was about 40 miles high, going thousands of miles per hour.

Easy immigration for Syrians in Canada

REFUGEE

Canada on Saturday moved to ease immigration for Turkish and Syrian citizens already in the country, a month after an earthquake killed more than 50,000 people in the two countries. "Canada is committed to providing relief to those impacted by the devastating earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria," said Sean Fraser, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship. The new measures would allow, for example, people from those countries to apply for work permits that authorise foreigners to work for any employer for a specified period. "Today we are introducing new measures that make it easier for Turkish and Syrian nationals to extend their stay in Canada and be with their families, while continuing to work and study in a safe environment," Fraser added. The announcement comes 10 days after the UN urged the international community to speed up its settlement of Syrian refugees from areas affected by the earthquake.

Politics among rich & developing nations delay UN report

CLIMATE

BERLIN: Publication of a major new United Nations report on climate change is being held up by a battle between rich and developing countries over emissions targets and financial aid to vulnerable nations.

The report by hundreds of the world's top scientists was supposed to be approved by government delegations on Friday at the end of a weeklong meeting in the Swiss town of Interlaken.

The deadline was repeatedly extended as officials from big countries such as China, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, as well as the UN and the European Union haggled through the weekend over the wording of key phrases in the text.

The report by the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is meant to cap a series that digests vasts amounts of research on global warming compiled since the Paris climate accord was agreed in the year 2015.

A summary of the report was approved early Sunday, but three sources close to the talks have told *The Associated Press* that there is a risk that agreement on the main text may need to be postponed to a later meeting. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity due to the confidential nature of the talks.

The unusual process of having countries sign off on a scientific report is intended to ensure that governments accept its findings as authoritative advice on which to base their actions.

Observers said the IPCC meetings have increasingly become politicised as the stakes for curbing global warming increase, mirroring the annual United Nations climate talks that usually take place at the end of the year.

Among the thorniest issues at the current meeting are how to define which nations count as vulnerable developing countries, making them eligible for cash from a 'loss and damage' fund agreed at the last UN climate talks in Egypt.

Delegates have also battled over figures stating how much greenhouse gas emissions need to be cut by over the coming years, and how to include artificial or natural carbon removal efforts in the equations.

As the country that has released the biggest amount of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere since industrialisation, the United States has pushed back strongly against the notion of historic responsibility for climate change.

FESTIVE TIME

People prepare to take part in a Melasti ceremony prayer at Segara temple in Surabaya in East Java, Indonesia on Sunday. Melasti is a purification festival which is held several days before Nyepi, the day of silence, when Hindu devotees are not allowed to work, travel or take part in any indulgence | AFP

All UK phones to get emergency alert system to warn of life-threatening events

TECHNOLOGY

LONDON: A siren-like alert will be sent to mobile phone users across the UK next month to test a new public warning system over life-threatening events such as severe weather events, the British government announced on Sunday.

A UK-wide alerts test will take place in the early evening of Sunday, April 23, which will see people receive a test message on their mobile phones.

The government said the new Emergency Alerts will be used very rarely, only being sent where there is an immediate risk to people's lives, so people may not receive an alert for months, or even years.

While currently not covered, terror alerts could also be added to list of potential events.

"We are strengthening our national resilience with a new emergency alerts system, to deal with a wide range of threats, from flooding to wildfires," said Cabinet Office minister Oliver Dowden. "It will revolutionise our ability to warn and inform people who are in immediate danger, and help us keep people safe. As we've seen in the US and elsewhere...," he said.

The Cabinet Office said that working with mobile broadcasting technology, the Emergency Alerts system is set to transform the UK's warning and informing capability, providing a means to get urgent messages quickly to nearly 90% of mobile phones in a defined area and providing clear instructions about how best to respond.

The service has already been used in countries such as the US, Canada, the Netherlands and Japan.

MILESTONE

In world's first, cataract surgery successful on penguins

WILDLIFE

SINGAPORE: Ever heard of a cataract surgery for penguins? Well, in a world's first procedure, veterinarians performed a successful cataract surgery on Jurong Bird Park's old penguins, three King Penguins and three Humboldt Penguins.

The surgery has helped them to boost their sight and improve the quality of life. The cloudy lenses caused by cataracts were removed and King Penguins got custom-made intraocular lens implants from Germany.

Dr Ellen Rasidi, veterinarian at Mandai Wildlife Group (MWG) said, "We noticed the cloudiness in their lens and moving about like they were having difficulty seeing things in front of them...We opted for this procedure to enhance their well-being and welfare."

Rasidi also informed that since the recovery period, an increase in the activity levels and responsiveness has been observed in the penguins.

The penguins were first diagnosed with cataracts during a health checkup in August 2022. Following the diagnosis, the Eye Specialist for Animals team led by veterinary ophthalmologist Dr Gladys Boo, together with the help of the veterinary team from MWG, performed surgeries on the penguins in December 2022.

The eye of a King Penguin being checked at Jurong Bird Park | MANDAI WILDLIFE GROUP

The penguins had to remain out of water to recover after the surgery. The keepers also administered eye drops twice daily. They made a full recovery and are currently back with the rest of their colony.

Dr Boo hailed the procedure as a milestone in veterinary medicine as intraocular lens implants are common for humans and some domestic animals but for the first time, they were used on penguins.

The surgery was a bit more tricky for penguins as they have a third eyelid that had the tendency of closing during the surgery, making it difficult for the surgeons to access the eye.

"I am glad we were able to work through these challenges to improve their life," Dr Boo said.

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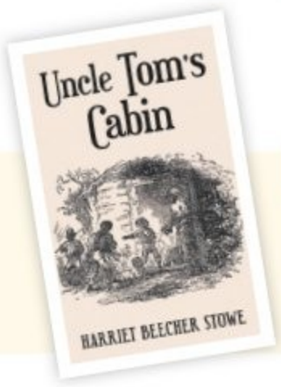


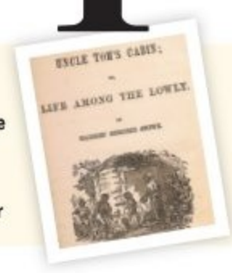
DAY'S DIARY

Book published

American author Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was pubished in book form on this day in 1852

POPULARITY

An abolitionist novel, it achieved wide popularity, particularly among white readers, by vividly dramatising the experience of slavery. It sold more than 3,00,000 copies in the first year



INSTALLMENTS

It appeared first in weekly installments between June 1851 and April 1852 in the *National Era*, a Washington DC periodical with an anti-slavery slant

INSPIRATION

The book was translated into more than twenty languages, was turned into popular stage versions and inspired songs and merchandising spin-offs

Check out what's happening in the city

PG 2

SAMOSA SENSATION!

After this B'luru food-tech firm went viral on social media with claims of earning over ₹12 lakh per day selling samosas, its founders share the real story

DESE GOWDA

IF you have been on social media recently, you're likely to have come across several 'inspirational' stories about a Bengaluru-based couple's phenomenal success selling samosas. The couple, supposedly, has built a business empire that has earned over ₹600 crore in lifetime revenue within a span of just eight years. Nidhi Singh, co-founder of Samosa Singh, the city-based company, who is at the centre of these stories, is bemused at such claims. "I don't know how these numbers out there are going viral. I know people are saying we are earning ₹45 crore per year. I wish it was true, but it's not. That's our annual run rate (ARR), not actual earnings," she shares.

Started in 2016 in a 1,000 sq.ft location in Electronics City, Samosa Singh is a food-tech company that offers traditional Indian snacks, especially samosas, with a modern twist – manchurian samosas, chilli cheese samosas and more. Founded by two former corporate professionals who quit their jobs to 'start something of their own', the company's story is that of success driven by innovation. While it doesn't live up to the lofty claims going viral around social media, Samosa Singh has still managed to create a brand that has expanded rapidly across South India with plans to expand outside the country already in motion.

"We realised that samosas, which resonate with many, were only available in a highly unorganised sector. This meant that you wouldn't be able to get the same kind of quality and flavour every time even if you go to the same vendor. So there was a market need for samosas that were consistent in quality," says Shikhar Veer Singh, co-founder and Kushi's husband. "So we took the plunge, quit our jobs and put everything we had into the business," he says.

Despite having no relevant experience, the duo had a clear vision. "From day one, it was all about creating a business that could offer Indian snacks that global food brands such as McDonald's and Domino's are doing with burgers and pizzas," Kushi adds. Using their shared background in science, the couple tackled the challenge head-on, creating techniques and automated machinery to resolve operational issues, including ensuring consistency and quality at scale, and reducing human input, thereby scope for error. "While our background didn't have a direct impact on the business, it certainly helped us tackle some of the biggest obstacles," says Shikhar. "It was basic science. If you want to make a samosa crispy, you have to break down the gluten in the dough by kneading it longer. Small things like that helped us ensure quality control," adds Nidhi.

Initially, Samosa Singh focussed on B2B operations, mostly due to financial restrictions, catering to corporate clients, cinemas, and the aviation industry. While the strategy paid off during their first four years of operations, the lack of attention towards B2C came back to haunt them during the lockdown. As their clients ceased operations, their revenue plunged to net zero within days. Despite the setback, the couple quickly pivoted and entered the cloud kitchen business. "We have learnt a lot through our journey building this business from scratch. We have made our fair share of mistakes, but we still keep evolving," says Kushi.

Shikhar Veer Singh and Nidhi Singh

Avin Thaliath
(@chef_avin), pastry chef and the director of Lavonne Academy of Baking Science And Pastry Arts, dishes out a food-related quiz in this weekly series. Be a real 'whisk' taker and let us know if you have what it bakes. Who knows, your dreams may crumb true.

GRUB HUB

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in CE. The first prize winner this week will win a voucher worth `1,000 from McDonald's India (West & South)**

THE RIGHT ANSWERS

1) Karanji 2) Gujiya 3) Kulfi

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT

1) Veena Harish
2) Asha Kumkar
3) Shalini G

CITY READ

NMIT students conferred with 'Bank of Baroda Achievers Award 2023'

Nationalised bank Bank of Baroda has chosen 55 institutes of higher learning all across the country to support students who excel in their academics. Sneha T (aeronautical engineering), Prithvi (aeronautical engineering), and Gurudatt B (electrical and communication engineering) are three Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technology final year engineering students who recently received the prestigious Bank of Baroda Achievers' Award and a cash prize in the presence of Prof NR Shetty, chancellor, Central University of Karnataka. This honour acknowledges the outstanding accomplishments of students who have excelled in the academic fields to motivate others to pursue excellence.

REVA University hosts lecture series

REVA University hosted a one-day flagship Expert Lecture Series Event 'Anaagata 2023' on the campus on March 16. The National Association of Students of Architecture (NASA) expert lecture series was organised for students of architecture from universities and colleges across India. The event held at REVA University was inaugurated by Habeeb Khan, president, Council of Architecture. Leena Kumar, joint honourary secretary, IIA, the guest of honour for the event reiterated the importance of involving local craftspeople in the project.

INSIDE
WHAT'S BEST FOR THE RIDER IN YOU
P3

It was a weekend filled with celebration as expats in the city gathered to mark Japanese National Day and St Patrick's Day on separate occasions

Celebrations and Commemorations

VIDYA IYENGAR

SAKE, sushis and an evening of music and conversations. Friday marked the birthday of the Emperor of Japan who turned 63 on February 23. And over 270 guests made their way to a star hotel to celebrate the occasion. Some traditional music by a choir comprising Japanese nationals gave company to an evening buzzing with conversation. "His Majesty Emperor Naruhito is the 126th Emperor of Japan. It will soon be the fifth year of his reign since ascending to the throne in 2019," says Nakane Tsutomu, Consul-General of Japan in Bengaluru.

The evening also saw actor Ramya, who celebrated her 40th birthday recently in Japan, take part in 'Kagami-biraki' – a celebratory ceremony where the lid of the sake barrel is broken open before being served to everyone present. Despite a health scare of one of the guests – who was revived by a senior medical professional in the gathering, Dr Sankarshana VT – the evening went on smoothly.

Nine months ago, the cool weather of Bengaluru gave Tsutomu a warm welcome. And ever since, he has been working on putting the city on the global map. "Bengaluru is a key driving factor of the Indian economy. With Covid-19 subsiding, corporate ventures such as innovation and startups have become more active. Some Japanese companies have also established R&D centres in Bengaluru," he says, adding this year, Japan and India lead the G7 and G20 chairmanships, respectively. "Despite the Covid disaster, Japan's export to India was $ 14.4 billion and import was $ 6.1 billion in 2021, each about 1.5 times higher than the past five years. The number of Japanese companies operating in India is steadily rising. In 2021, the number of companies in India totalled 1,439. Karnataka alone is home to 512 offices. The number of Japanese companies in India has tripled in the past 10 years. And the number of offices in Karnataka has also increased by 3.5 times," he says.

Tsutomu is very optimistic about the Indo-Japanese relationship which he points out was reasserted on the occasion of its 70th anniversary and is expected to grow further, with cooperation in global areas, especially in the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals'. "During his visit to India last March, Prime Minister [Fumio] Kishida, in a meeting with Prime Minister [Narendra] Modi, announced the realization of a ¥5 trillion investment and loan to India over the next five years. Prime Minister Kishida will be visiting Prime Minister Modi again and it is expected that Japan and India will further deepen their ties," he says amidst a busy evening.

Nakane Tsutomu and Ramya

Teruko Thimmarayappa and Dr Sankarshana VT

The Japanese choir performs at the event

PICS: NAGARAJA GADEKAL

PAINTING THE TOWN GREEN

BENGALURU'S Irish community along with locals showed up in hues of green on Sunday when Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw hosted an exclusive gathering to celebrate St Patrick's Day. In fact, the idea for the setting up of the Science Gallery Bengaluru–which had a soft launch recently–was conceived in Ireland. "I was at the Trinity College in Dublin when I thought we should bring something like it to Bengaluru. What was most impressive is the support we received in making it a reality. After all, we are trying to create a scientific temper," says Mazumdar-Shaw, the Honorary Consul-General of Ireland.

Prominent Bengalureans–former badminton player Prakash & Ujjala Padukone, MAP founder Abhishek & Radhika Poddar, and TTK Prestige chairman TT Jagannathan & Latha Jagannathan – attended the programme which included some singing and swaying to Irish tunes.

Mazumdar-Shaw fondly remembered her late husband John Shaw who used to liven up on occasions like this. "After a two-year lull, we are commemorating the day. If you look back, a lot of our history are interwoven. If you look ahead, there's great camaraderie and synergy when it comes to both countries in terms of technology and life sciences. Both share a strong vision on these areas," she says.

While celebrating all things Irish, Elaine Kennedy, Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Ireland to India, says, "It's a significant year with it being 100 years of Ireland in the League of Nations. It's also 25 years since the Good Friday agreement. It's important to acknowledge leaders who brought about peace amidst conflict," she says.

Kennedy has the last word when she says with a chuckle, "Sports is a great unifier except when you play against England of course! The popularity of cricket is growing as the Indian population is."

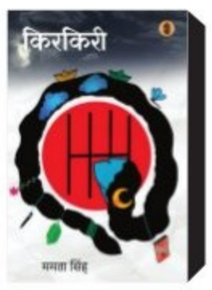
(Clockwise from right) Elaine Kennedy with Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw; a glimpse of St Patrick's Day celebrations | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

BOOK NOOK

Every Creature Has a Story

By Janaki Lenin

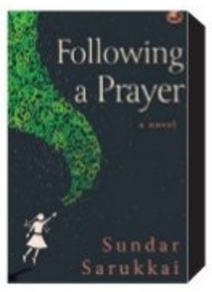
In this book, the author draws us towards the wonders of the natural world in evocative and witty words. She uncovers the surprising, sometimes bizarre but always amazing ways in which creatures breed and survive.



Kirkiri

By Mamta Singh

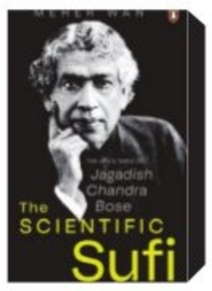
This collection of stories seeks the origin of human sensibilities in these violent times engulfed in the world. These stories also artistically record all those moments in which man struggles without any bigotry to save his life.



Following a Prayer

By Sundar Sarukkai

This is a beautiful story about reclaiming voice, agency and faith.



The Scientific Sufi

By Meher Wan

This is a biography of Sir Jagdish Chandra Bose, the father of modern science in India.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

Strengthen your core

Amy Taylor Alpers, a second-generation Pilates teacher and co-founder of The Pilates Centre in Colorado, will be sharing her expertise at an Introductory Classical Pilates Workshop. The workshop will cover the benefits of Pilates for the mind and body, including its potential to combat depression and stress.

WHERE: The Courtyard Community Centre, Shanthinagar **WHEN:** March 25, 10.30pm
DETAILS: 9986970008

Melodic Tunes

Meera Desai Collective, who will be performing in the city, experiments with lyrical folk and jazz. The band features Meera Desai and Tshering Bhutia on vocals and guitar, Harmish Joshi on saxophone and flute, Raag Sethi on bass, Shivang Kapadia on drums and on vocals and Guitar.

WHERE: Windmills, Whitefield
WHEN: March 24, 9.30pm
DETAILS: allevents.in

Black & White strokes

In this workshop, you will learn the basic techniques of charcoal sketches, layering, building values and how to control the medium.

WHERE: Art Beat, JP Nagar **WHEN:** March 25, 2pm **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Rhyme it out

Celebrate World Poetry Day with a Pay with a Poem' experience. Pay with a Poem is an initiative where anyone can write a poem and be paid for their efforts with a coffee.

WHERE: Urban Solace, Ulsoor
WHEN: March 21, 11am
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Dominican Moves

Learn the authentic and lively style of Dominican Bachata. This workshop is perfect for those who are new to Latin dance and want to learn from the basics.

WHERE: Small World, Koramangala
WHEN: March 22, 7pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Tribute to Mom

After delivering several hit singles for over the past five years, Ritviz is here with his debut album *Mimmi*. It is an ode to his biggest fan - his mother.

WHERE: Manpho Convention Centre, Nagavara
WHEN: March 25, 5pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Burger Heaven

Boss Burger recently premiered two limited edition burgers that are perfect for those who like a blockbuster twist. The Roasted Chicken Shawarma Burger and Hara Bhara Surprise Burger are on the menu till April 30.

WHERE: Boss Burger, Ashok Nagar
WHEN: March 24, 11am
DETAILS: 9322563244

GIRL POWER

A luxury car and super bikes rally was organised by She's Queen Drive Club at Mahadevapuram on Sunday| VINODKUMART

QUICK FIX

CORIANDER PRAWN IN COCONUT SAUCE

Contributed by **Titly Chatterjee Sarkar,** Kolkata

INGREDIENTS

- **Prawn (Mid size):** 12-15 pieces
- **Coriander paste:** 6 tbsp
- **Ginger paste:** 1/2 tbsp
- **Green chillies:** 1/2 tbsp
- **Salt:** 1/2 tbsp
- **Butter:** 1 tbsp
- **Pepper:** 1/2 tbsp
- **Garlic paste:** 2 tbsp
- **Onion paste:** 2 tbsp
- **Fresh coconut:** 1
- **Honey:** 1/2 tbsp

METHOD

- Mix the ginger, garlic, onion, coriander pastes, chilli and salt in a bowl.
- Dip the prawns in the mixture and marinate them.
- Heat a pan on a low flame
- Add butter to the pan and slowly place the marinated prawns one by one on the pan.
- Keep the flame low and cover the pan. Cook the prawns on both sides until dry.
- Sprinkle pepper and sauté the prawn dry.
- Grind coconut milk and coconut flesh with some salt, sugar and one green chilli in a mixer to make coconut sauce.
- Garnish with the coconut sauce and serve.

What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

FIT BIT

VIMANASANA VARIATION

(SUPERMAN POSE WITH ARMS FORWARD)

This pose is a challenging chest opener as the anterior ribs open with constriction. It tones the hamstrings, calf muscles, and the front of the feet. It is a good core strengthener. It tones the abdomen and is a good pose to reduce a big belly.

STEPS

- Lie down in prone position, aligning Makarasana (Crocodile Pose).
- Inhale and extend your arms and legs.
- Both your arms should be to the sides of your head, close to the ears. Exhale.
- Inhale, lift your hands, arms, head, chest, and legs in the air. Keep breathing and balance your body on your stomach, pelvis, and thighs.
- Contract the butt to tone your glutes and give strength to your pelvis.
- Exhale, slowly move your arms and legs down. Start with 5 seconds and slowly increase.
- Don't hold your breath or jerk to get into the pose.
- After practising this pose according to your capacity, relax in Makarasana.

BENEFITS

- Stretches quadriceps, shin muscles and the feet muscles.
- Strengthens the knees, hamstrings and calf muscles.
- Outer thighs, hips and glutes are toned.
- Opens the muscles and the joints.
- Prepares the body for more challenging core strength poses.
- Helps in correcting the overall body posture.
- Symmetrical alignment balances the center of gravity of the body.
- Enhances the energy flow and allows smooth prana flow. Improves flexibility.
- Stimulates the digestive system and the thyroid glands.
- Strengthens the lumbar spine.
- Enhances the blood circulation evenly.
- Therapeutic for digestive problems like constipation or low metabolic problems.
- Can be helpful for women facing menstrual irregularity, infertility, and weight gain.
- Benefits postnatal women to tighten their core and increase abdominal strength. They should do it after the initial four weeks of gaining physical strength and resting the lower back.

LIMITATIONS

People with injuries, undergone surgeries, lack of body-breath connection, weak joints, anxiety, mild depression, heart-related ailments, migraines, dizziness, vertigo, undergone trauma, common digestive problems and thyroid-related issues, senior citizens and pregnant women avoid this pose.

By N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

WALTAIR VEERAYYA (Telugu)

The story is about a fisherman and his friend, egoistic ACP Vikram Sagar IPS, who stops Veerayya from smuggling goods.

Cast: Chiranjeevi, Ravi Teja, Shruti Haasan

- **Watch on:** Netflix

REKHA (Malayalam)

A young woman in love, ends up on a vindictive mission as a result of one unfortunate night that sends her spiralling into violence.

Cast: Vincy Aloshious, Unni Lalu, Vishnu Govindhan

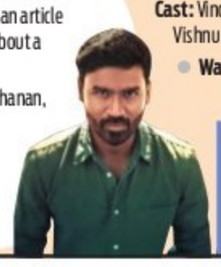
- **Watch on:** Netflix

MAARAN (Tamil)

An investigative journalist is in trouble when he publishes an article that exposes bitter truths about a corrupt politician.

Cast: Dhanush, Malavika Mohanan, Samuthirakani

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar



ARDH (Hindi)

Shiva struggles to become a mainstream actor in Mumbai despite being a theatre actor. With the help of his wife Madhu, he disguises himself as a transgender and begs for money to survive.

Cast: Rajpal Naurang Yadav, Rubina Dilaik, Hiten Tejwani

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

SAUNKAN SAUNKNE (Punjabi)

A couple married for more than six years loses hope for a child. On the insistence of his wife he marries her sister. Shortly small squabbles between the two wives lead to a comic situation and fun begins.

Cast: Ammy Virk, Sargun Mehta, Nimrat Khaira

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

LOST (Hindi)

This movie narrates the tale of crime reporter Vidhi, who is out to find a missing college student. Her quest reveals the many layers of society that redefine politics, love, and betrayal.

Cast: Yami Gautam, Pankaj Kapur, Pia Bajpiee

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

INTTELLIGENT (Telugu)

Dharam Tej, a software engineer, is very loyal to his boss, Nandha Kishore. All is fine till a criminal gang kills Nandha and turns Dharam into Dharma Bhai.

Cast: Sai Dharam Tej, Lavanya Tripathi, Ashish Vidyarthi

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

FOREIGN

LUTHER: THE FALLEN SUN (English)

A dedicated urban detective tries to keep a grip on his personal life while dealing with the psychological factors underlying the crimes he solves.

Cast: Idris Elba, Dermot Crowley, Michael Smiley

- **Watch on:** Netflix

LAMBORGHINI: THE MAN BEHIND THE LEGEND (English)

This thrilling, high-speed biopic reveals one man's dream of making the world's fastest car-and beating rival Enzo Ferrari.

Cast: Frank Grillo, Mira Sorvino, Gabriel Byrne

- **Watch on:** Lionsgate Play

THE GARDEN OF EVENING MISTS (Malaysian-English)

Embittered from atrocities of World War II in Malaya, Teoh Yun Ling seeks solace in the rolling hills of Cameron Highlands.

Cast: Angelica Lee, Hiroshi Abe, Sylvia Chang

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

DAISY JONES & THE SIX (English, series)

Based on the New York Times best-selling novel, Daisy Jones & the Six follows the story of a 1970s band fronted by two feuding yet charismatic lead singers, Daisy Jones and Billy Dunne. Set to the soundtrack of original music, this is the story of how this iconic band imploded at the height of its powers.

Cast: Riley Keough, Sam Claflin, Camila Morrone

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

SUBSCRIPTION

Lionsgate Play:	₹699 per year
Zee5:	₹399 for 3 months
Disney+Hotstar:	₹199 for 3 months
Netflix:	₹149 per month

WHAT'S BEST FOR THE RIDER IN YOU

LEKSHMI C PILLAI

TO the uninitiated, there are only two types of two-wheelers — scooters and bikes. However, for enthusiasts, it's a long list. Even in the 150-200 cc segment, we can see many such design types.

Every rider has a different purpose for choosing a bike. Motorbikes are categorised based on various factors including different road conditions and terrain, type of rider, comfort vs performance, purpose, etc. Let's have a look at the various types of two-wheelers.

SCOOTERS

The scooter is the most practical two-wheeler for daily use. No headache like changing gears, no question of where to keep the helmet when parking, no heat from the engine reaching you, plenty of storage spaces, mobile charging points, Bluetooth connectivity – the list of favorable factors is long. In fact, the advent of gearless scooters made a revolution in the mobility of women and senior citizens. Even at the entry-level, scooters are stylish, the more expensive, the funner they are. Electric scooters are also high in demand. To name a few – Honda Activa 6G, TVS Jupiter, Honda Dio, TVS NTORQ 125, Ola S1, Suzuki Access 125, TVS iQube Electric, Ather 450X, Suzuki Burgman Street, and Bajaj Chetak.

COMMUTER BIKES

They are for the daily commute. India's workforce depends heavily on these no-nonsense machines. They combine performance, mileage, and ride comfort, with more emphasis on the latter two. Commuter bikes come in various engine capacities. When you look at the entry-level, bikes are cheaper than scooters. The top manufacturers that produce in this segment are Hero, Honda, Bajaj, TVS, and Keeway. Hero Splendor Plus, Honda SP 125, Yamaha MT 15 V2, Honda Shine, TVS Apache RTR 160, Bajaj Pulsar 125, and Bajaj Pulsar 150 are some of the best sellers.

CRUISER & ADVENTURE TOURER

Cruisers are designed for highways and for those who want to "sit back and relax"! These are for effortless urban cruising and long rides. The riding position is like sitting in a car. Cruisers are available from 150 cc onwards. They are very stable in a straight line and come with an accessible seat height and a big fuel tank. *Adventure tourers* can be called the SUVs of the bike industry. They can go anywhere; be it gravel or sand. These are tall and have very good ground clearance and long-travel suspension. They'll often have variants that are geared either towards touring on tarmac or towards off-road touring. Riding will require a bit of practice too. Royal Enfield Classic 350, Kawasaki Z900RS, Ducati XDiavel, Harley-Davidson Sportster S, Royal Enfield Hunter 350 Royal Enfield Meteor 350, Jawa 42, Honda H'ness CB350, and Royal Enfield Super Meteor 650 are best listed for riding in the cruiser segment. The top brands that manufacture adventure-tourer bikes are Royal Enfield, Hero, and BMW.

SPORTS BIKES

Youngsters and hardcore ride enthusiasts fall into this category. These bikes focus on speed and a sporty chassis. Their fairings and design ensure good aerodynamics. The top brands that manufacture sports bikes are Yamaha, TVS, and Bajaj. Yamaha R15 V4, Bajaj Pulsar RS 200, Yamaha MT 15 V2, Yamaha R15 V4, and TVS Apache RTR 160 are some favourite models of motorheads.

DIRT BIKES

The market for dirt bikes is very small in India. They are recreational bikes with long-travel suspension and are able to handle dirt. They have knobby tires, small fuel tanks, and usually no lights. Yamaha WR 155R, Suzuki DR-Z50, Kawasaki KLX 110, and Suzuki RM Z250 are riders' favourites.

STREET/NAKED BIKES

For some market watchers, commuter bikes belong to a wider category – street bikes aka naked bikes. These come with zero luxury elements and require only low maintenance. There is no fairing or cladding, and that's why they are called naked. Typically, they come without wind protection and sometimes expose their frames as a part of the design. Their upright riding position offers ease of driving. Some top listed street bikes available in India are Honda H'ness CB350, KTM 200 Duke, Yamaha MT 15 V2, TVS Apache RTR 160, TVS Apache RTR 160 4V, KTM 250 Duke, and Bajaj Pulsar 150.

XPRESS HIGHWAY

FORTNIGHTLY SEGMENT ON WHAT'S REVVING UP IN THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR

The writer is a freelance auto expert who hosts TV showsand anchors the YouTube channel 'CARKADUVA'

ELECTRIC TWO-WHEELERS

The segment is fast growing with a green signal. There are smart electric scooters and motorcycles with the best in technology features and range. Power is supplied by a rechargeable battery that drives one or more electric motors. Ola S1, TVS iQube Electric, and Ather 450X are the best sellers in the electric-scooter segment. The top brands that produce electric bikes are Revolt, Ultraviolette, Tork, Matter EV, and Oben Electric.

HONDA new releases

SHINE 100

Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India launched its most affordable and fuel-efficient mass motorcycle – The Shine 100 in India. Shine 100 is developed with 12 patent applications for the enhancement of reliability. At the heart of Shine 100 ticks an all-new 100cc OBD2 compliant PGM-FI engine, boosted by Enhanced Smart Power which optimises energy output by maximising efficient combustion and minimising friction with a smooth eco-friendly engine. This new 100cc engine is lightweight, efficient, and has class-leading mileage.

Shine 100 will be available in five colour options. The all-new Shine 100 is priced attractively at ₹ 64,900 (ex-showroom, Maharashtra).

H'NESS CB350 & CB350RS

HMSI launched the OBD2B compliant 2023 H'ness CB350 & CB350RS. Honda also introduced a new customisation section for the CB350 customers – 'My CB, My Way'. The H'ness CB350 blends Honda's originality with a timeless sense of design. The style resonates with the new-age motorcyclists' sense of self-expression and uniqueness. On the other hand, CB350RS is the perfect example of an amalgamation between contemporary style and superior stance. At the heart of CB350 is a big powerful 350cc, air-cooled 4-stroke OHC single-cylinder OBD2B compliant engine equipped with PGM-FI technology. It delivers a max torque of 30 Nm@3000 rpm. CB350 is available in 3 variants and the price ranges from ₹2,09,857 to ₹2,14,856 lakh. CB350RS is available in 3 variants in the price range of ₹ 2,14,856 to ₹2,17,857 lakh.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I hitherto known as I, ANNADANAGOUDA Son of KUNTAPPA MOOLIMANI resident of S/o Kuntappa, Rampur, Raichur,Nawli, Karnataka-584127 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as **ANANDGOUDA MOOLIMANI** for all purposes. Vide Affidavit dated 15.03.2023 before Notary Chandrakala, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **CHANDRA KISHORE SHANKAR RAO** R/at No. C 118 Suraksha Land Mark Near Saibaba Temple 80feet Main Road Arekere off BG Road Bengaluru- 560076 have changed my minor Son's Name From **SANKALP SHANKAR RAO CHANDRA KISHORE** to **SANKALP KISHORE RAO** vide affidavit dated: 18/3/2023 Before Notary **K.V.Mani** Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KAJOL KUMARI,** D/o Late Mr. Shater Mondal, Resident of 55/5, Somashettyhalli, Pipeline Road, Abbigere Main Road, Chikkabanavara, Bangalore-90. I have change my name from **"BEAUTY KHATUN" to "KAJOL KUMARI"** Vide affidavit dated: 17-03-2023 Notary before **KODI NAGAPPAYA,** advocate & Notary at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mrs. DIVYA VISWANATH** W/o. Ajay Jayaraj, Mother of Ahan D Ajay, Resident of Villa 137, Lotus Layout, Near Sheneshwara Temple, Anekal, Bengaluru - 562 106, do hereby declare that I have changed my minor son's name from **AHAN AJAY** to **AHAN D AJAY** vide affidavit dated 18.3.2023 sworn to before B.M. Chandrashekar, Advocate & Notary Public, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ROHAN DENZIL ALEX,** Residing at SB 101, Sriram Smrithi, Bidaraguppe, Attibele, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore 562107, do here solemnly declare that I have changed my Daughter's name from **MICHELLE ROHAN ALEX** to **MICHELLE ALEXIE ROHAN** vide affidavit number IN-KA02270039112200V dated 04/03/2023 before **Notary Mr. L. Mahalingappa** dated 04/03/2023.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ASHWIN RAJEEVA** R/at Villa No 513 Concorde Napa Valley Taralu Village Kaggalipura Post Kanakapura Road Bengaluru- 560082 have changed my minor daughter's name from **DEEKSHA ASHWIN** To **DEEKSHA SRIVIDYA ASHWIN** vide affidavit dated: 18/3/2023 Before Notary **K.V.Mani** Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Tuntun Singh,** S/o Madan Mohan Singh, aged about 46 years, residing at Bajaul Dumari, Tarawan, Gaya, Bihar-805128, state on oath that, my name was inadvertently mentioned as **Raj Kishore Singh** in my working place records and PF records Except this, my name is mentioned as **Tuntun Singh** in all my govt. ID proof and documents. I hereby by declared that the above said both names pertain to the one i.e., **TUNTUN SINGH** Sworn before **V Sadappa,** Advocate & Notary, Hoskote-562114.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MARY JANCY DUROM** W/o Austin Fernandez, R/o Jusus Villa, 1st Main Road, 4th Cross near Vijaya Bharti Public School Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Sultan Palya, Bengaluru-560032, have changed my name as **MARY JANCY FERNANDEZ**, vide affidavit dated 16.03.2023, sworn before notary Leela, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **AROKYA MARY K**, Aged about 51 years, W/o. Lawrence M, R/at No. U11, 1st Main Road, Swathantranagar, Srirampuram, Bengaluru - 560 021, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **AROKIA MARY MANJULA @ AROKIAMARY .K** to **AROKYA MARY K** vide affidavit dated 16.03.2023 sworn to before V. Rangaraju, Notary Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, MR.HRUDANANDA PATRA aged about 29 years C/o Sukadeb Patra Residing at, # Near Medical Clinic, Dinnur, Kadugodi Post, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural, Karnataka 560067 Permanent address at, Kabara, Post Madhapur, Dhenkanal, Odisha-759014. declared that the names **HRUDANANDA PATRA and PRIYABRATA PATRA** belongs to me only, and both name belongs to one and the same person. Vide affidavit dt. 12-08-2021 before Advocate and Notary VEENA .J, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RUCHIKA JAIN** R/at No. C-26, 3rd Floor, Lorve Residence, 1st Cross, Opp. Vishwa Hindu Parashid, Dharmashn, Shankarpuram, Bangalore- 560004, have changed my name to **RUCHIKA KUHAD JAIN** vide affidavit dated: 18/3/2023 Before Notary **L.Shankaranarayana** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) GRACY JOYCE, W/o. Partha Sarathi, residing at No. 1090, Near Ellamma Temple, Kuvempu Nagar Jalahalli East, Bangalore-560014, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) GRACY JOYCE** to **(NEW NAME) D.F.GRACY JOYCE** vide affidavit Dated 16/03/2023 sworn before Notary S.R.Ravikumar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **VAANI SHREE S**, aged about 24 years, D/o. Shiva Shankar M, residing at No. 3103, 6th Block, SMV Layout, Ullal, Bengaluru - 560 110, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **VAANI SHREE** to **VAANI SHREE S,** vide affidavit dated 18.03.2023, sworn before D.S. Chandrakanth, Advocate and Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GANAPATI**, residing at Flat No.11182, Tower-11, Prestige Lake Ridge Apartments, Yadalam Nagar, Subramanyapura, Bengaluru-560061, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from **GANAPATI** to **GANAPATI HEGDE**, vide affidavit dated 18/03/2023 sworn before notary BKR KRISHNAMURTHY, Reg No. 1351, Bangalore.

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Sanchith Sanjeev
to make acting and direction debut with *Jimmy*

Currently, in the pre-production phase, an official announcement is expected soon

Sanchith Sanjeev

CE FEATURES

SUDEEP'S nephew, Sanchith Sanjeev, is leaving no stone unturned to make a splashing debut in Kannada cinema. Sources reveal that Sanchith is getting ready to take over the double responsibilities of acting and direction in his maiden project.

Currently, in the pre-production stage, the project is speculated to be titled *Jimmy*. There were multiple filmmakers, including Jayathirtha Jayanna, who were associated with the actor's debut. However, it is clear that Sanchith, who has worked behind the scenes in short films, advertisements, and has been associated with Kichcha Production House, will be focussing on *Jimmy* now.

Sanchith learnt filmmaking, acting, and cinematography at the New York Academy, and trained in MMA fighting. Not wanting to star in regular commercial films that have big fights and a whole lot of songs, Sanchith, in an earlier interview with us, asserted that he wanted his character to decide the story, which would factor in the present trends that are indicative of the audience taste while choosing the right script.

Our source adds that plans are on to launch the project in a big way, and an announcement about the cast, crew, and genre is expected soon.

Sanjana Doss
joins the cast of Hayavadana's *Yello Jogappa Ninnaramane*

The film stars Anjan Nagendra and Venya Rai in the lead cast

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Sanjana Doss is the latest to join the cast of director Hayavadana's next, *Yello Jogappa Ninnaramane*, which stars Anjan Nagendra and Venya Rai.

Sanjana, a model-turned-actor, started her film career with *Manasmitha* and the yet-to-be-released *KTM*. Yello Jogappa Ninnaramane marks her third project. Billed to be a travel-based youth entertainer, Sanjana will be joining the team from March 29 in Manali.

Yello Jogappa Ninnaramane also has Hayavadana doubling up as a producer in association with Pavan Simikeri under the Pandoras Box Production and Krishnachhhaya Chital banner.

Sanjana Doss is also foraying into Malayalam with @, directed by Don Max.

Sanjana Doss

Actor Denzel Washington cast in *Gladiator* sequel

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Denzel Washington, who has previously worked with Ridley Scott in biographical crime film American Gangster, is set to team up with director Ridley Scott for the upcoming *Gladiator* sequel, which will have Paul Mescal play the lead role.

As per Variety, the details of Washington's character, is kept under wraps.

Gladiator, which released in 2000, featured Russell Crowe, Joaquin Phoenix and Conie Nielsen. Russell essayed the role of Maximus, the Roman general-turned-gladiator, who avenges the murders of his wife and son.

The sequel of the film is set years after the events of the first film took place and will focus on Lucius (Paul), the son of Conie's Lucilla and nephew of Commodus (Joaquin). Lucius and Lucilla were saved by Maximus when he defeated Commodus in combat, though he too succumbed to his injuries, allowing him to finally reunite with his murdered wife and son in the afterlife.

The sequel will be backed by Ridley along with Doug Wick, Michael Pruss and Lucy Fisher. The script is written by David Scarpa.

JAMES DIRECTOR CHETHAN KUMAR TO HELM GANESH'S NEXT?

Speculations are rife that the project will soon go on floors

A SHARADHAA

SINCE the release of *James (*March 2022*)*, director Chethan Kumar has remained tight-lipped about his next. Though there were rumours about the filmmaker directing a project for Ishan, *CE* has learnt that Chethan is gearing up for something big next. The Bahaddhur, and Barjari filmmaker is all set to helm a project for Ganesh. This will be the first collaboration between Chethan and Ganesh.

While Ganesh is mostly known for starring in family entertainers that have oodles of romance and comedy, Chethan is known for his mass commercial entertainers, and this actor-filmmaker combination promises to be quite an interesting pairing.

The pre-production work is already underway, and an official announcement about the project is expected to be out soon. The film will go on floors once Ganesh's *Banadaariyalli*, directed by Preetham Gubbi hits the theatres. Apart from *Baanadariyalli,* which also stars Rukumini Vasant and Reeshma Nanaiah, Ganesh has confirmed a project with *Tribble Riding* director Mahesh Gowda, and Suni's next, titled *Rayagada.*

Ganesh

Chethan Kumar

Anne Hathaway to star in David Robert's directorial

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Anne Hathaway is set to star in an upcoming film that will be helmed by David Robert Mitchell. The film will be made for Warner Bros Pictures, Bad Robotit and Jackson Pictures.

As per Deadline, the film is expected to be a "thrill ride" that will be shot in IMAX and will go on floors from this fall. However, the rest of the information on the cast and crew along with the plot synopsis, is yet to be revealed.

David has written the script of the film. It will be produced by JJ Abrams and Hannah Minghella for Bad Robot and Matt Jackson under Jackson Pictures.

Meanwhile Anne was last seen in the American period pyschological thriller *Eileen* which released earlier this year. The actor also has *She Came to Me, Mothers' Instinct* and *The Idea of You in the making.*

FALL SEQUEL IN WORKS FOLLOWING MASSIVE SUCCESS

CE FEATURES

THE creators of the indie survival thriller *Fall* are looking forward to make a sequel to the film that premiered in August 2022. Reportedly British producer Tea Shop Productions and the film's director Scott Mann are currently in talks about a follow-up and are currently discussing ideas and pitches for the second film.

The decision to make a follow up film has been said to be made following the massive success. After its August premiere, the film went on to be released on Digital in September 2022 followed by Blu-ray and DVD the next month in October. *Fall* went on to arrive on streaming services, debuting on Netflix in international markets and placing in the Top 10 during its debut in four territories. The plan for the sequel is reportedly to get the project started later this year.

The story of Fall follows best friends Becky and Hunter, played by Grace Caroline Currey (Shazam! Fury of the Gods) and Virginia Gardner (Gaslit), respectively who scale to the top of a 2,000-foot radio tower in the desert and become stranded at the top. The film chronicles the duo attempting to escape this life-threatening situation. Additional cast members include *Mason Gooding* (Scream VI) and *The Walking Dead* star Jeffrey Dean Morgan. It isn't clear if any of the cast members will be returning for the sequel.